

Arab news

SAUDI ARABIA'S FIRST ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY

VOL. VIII NO. 111

SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1983 JAMAD-AL-THANI 5, 1403 A.H.

TWENTY PAGES



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Makkah Governor Prince Majed reaffirms that electronic and video game shops in the Western Province will have to remain closed until a special committee set up by Interior Minister Prince Naif decides on the matter. — Page 2

U.S. buildup
The United States plans to spend \$1,900 billion on defense in the five years from 1985 to 1989, \$300 billion more than previously estimated, according to a secret military guidance paper. — Page 6

Blackman dazbles
Rolando Blackman struck timely form for Dallas Mavericks against the Indiana Pacers in the National Basketball Association. — Page 9

Mocha and coffee
The seventh article in our Arab heritage series deals with the rise and decline in Mocha's fortunes as a coffee port. — Page 11

U.S. prices rise
American wholesale prices rose 0.1 percent in February as higher food prices canceled out fresh declines in gasoline and fuel oil costs. — Page 14

Nkomo allowed stay
Britain grants permission to Zimbabwe opposition leader Joshua Nkomo to stay in the country until April 12. In Zimbabwe, troops step up the hunt for a white farmer kidnapped at his farm near Bulawayo, Nkomo's stronghold. — Page 20

Pound plunges to new low

LONDON, March 18 (R) — Sterling came under renewed pressure on foreign exchange markets Friday, falling to all-time lows against the dollar and West German mark, amid expectations of a cut in the price of North Sea oil, dealers said.

Sterling fell to \$1.49 here and in Frankfurt was fixed at 3.575 West German marks, below the previous low of 3.580 set only Thursday.

Despite the recent OPEC (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) agreement for a new benchmark price of \$29 a barrel, dealers said sterling remains weak because of uncertainty about world oil prices.

Britain relies on oil sales, currently yielding some eight billion sterling a year, to support its balance of payments.

The British National Oil Corporation, which handles the bulk of North Sea crude, has suggested a \$30.50 price to oil companies, but most are still looking for a further cut.

Dealers said the U.S. currency was also strong against major European currencies due to a belief that the exchange rates of the members of the European Monetary System (EMS) would be changed this weekend.

The EMS limits the extent to which its eight member currencies, all the European community countries except Britain and Greece, can fluctuate against each other.

Meanwhile, West German Economic recovery and an easing of currency tensions within EMS were the targets for interest rate cuts announced by the Bundesbank Friday, observers said here.

Hussein, Thatcher debate M.E. plan

LONDON, March 18 (Agencies) — King Hussein of Jordan and members of a much-delayed Arab League mission to Britain Friday received a lavish ceremonial welcome and briefed Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on a Pan-Arab Middle East peace plan. British officials said the king also had private talks with Mrs. Thatcher.

The mission was first postponed last November because of differences over Palestinian representation, and the welcome given to it Friday, with military band and full guard of honor, was of a type more commonly associated with state occasions. The prime minister, whose opposition to the inclusion of a Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) representative caused the mission to be postponed, shook hands with King Hussein, a U.S.-based academic eventually chosen to represent the Palestinian people.

Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal and the foreign ministers or their deputies of Syria, Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia are also in the London mission. British officials said the presence of King Hussein with the mission gave the visit added significance. The king has been given a major role in President Reagan's peace plan, which calls for Palestinian self-government in the Israeli-occupied West Bank in association with Jordan.

The Arab plan, adopted at an Arab League summit in Fez last September, calls for an independent Palestinian state.



King Hussein

Al-Azhar attains a landmark

CAIRO, March 18 (AP) — In a rare mosque appearance, President Hosni Mubarak said Friday noon prayers at Al-Azhar, Islam's foremost educational center, at the start of week-long celebrations of its 1,000th anniversary.

Al-Azhar is a mosque-university complex revered by the world's 800 million Muslims. The mosque was built in 976 A.D. during the Fatimid dynasty in the earliest days of Muslim rule.

Mubarak was accompanied at the service by President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom of the predominantly-Muslim Indian Ocean Republic of Maldives, the only foreign head of state attending festivities.

More than a dozen Arab, African and Asian nations sent representatives. Participating Arab countries included several which broke off relations with Egypt over its 1979 peace treaty with Israel. Some of them were represented by cabinet ministers.

Mubarak and other members of the congregation sat cross-legged on the carpeted floor of mosque hall and listened to a sermon by Al-Azhar rector Sheikh Gadul Haq Ali Gadul Haq.

The theme of the sermon was Al-Azhar's role as a religious and educational institution. Quoting from the sayings of the Prophet Muhammad, Gadul-Haq said the mosque "is not just a place of prayer but also a school for learning and knowledge."

Gadul Haq said among the greatest challenges facing Islam today are "atheism...and faulty conceptions" — a veiled reference to communism and violence-prone extremism.

Throughout its history, Al-Azhar has served as a center for mobilization of popular movements against foreign colonizers as well as being a renowned institute for Islamic and academic studies.

Preachers at Al-Azhar frequently whipped up popular anti-British sentiment during the British occupation of Egypt between 1882 and 1954. When the British, French and Israelis mounted the Suez invasion of 1956, then President Gamal Abdul Nasser vowed resistance from the pulpit of Al-Azhar mosque.

Mass murderer draws 21 years

TRONDHEIM, Norway, March 18 (R) — The manager of an old people's nursing home was jailed Friday for 21 years after being found guilty of murdering 22 persons by injecting them with poison.

Arnfinn Nesset, 46, described by psychiatrists as an emotional misfit with suppressed aggressions, received the severest sentence under Norwegian law. He was also sentenced to spend 10 more years under supervision. The trial, which lasted 84 days, was the longest in Norwegian history.

Earthquake rocks Papua New Guinea

GOLDEN, Colorado, March 18 (R) — The world's strongest earthquake for 18 months, measuring nearly eight points on the Richter scale, Friday hit the New Britain area of Papua New Guinea, the U.S. Geological Survey said. No reports of casualties or damages were received, a survey spokesman added.

The quake was recorded at a preliminary magnitude of 7.9 on the open-ended scale and was centered about 325 miles northeast of Port Moresby, capital of Papua New Guinea.

Scientists at the Earthquake Information Center in Golden said the quake occurred at 7:05 p.m. (0905 GMT) and was the strongest since another 7.9 tremor on September 1, 1981 in the Samoan Islands area about 2,500 miles to the east of Friday's quake.

Saudia plane forcelands

ROME, March 18 (Agencies) — A Saudi airliner carrying 250 passengers and 18 crew from Paris to Jeddah made an emergency landing at Rome's Fiumicino Airport Friday after the pilot was told there was a bomb on board, airport sources said.

Paris control tower relayed an anonymous telephone warning to the Saudia Lockheed L-1011, and the pilot was given emergency clearance to land by Fiumicino.

He ordered the passengers to use the emergency escape chutes to empty the aircraft as quickly as possible. One passenger was taken to hospital with a broken foot sustained in the hurried exit, but details of name and nationality were not immediately available.

This is the second time in a week that a Saudia plane has been made to make a forced landing.

Living dressing to cure rare ailment

PENNSYLVANIA, March 18 (AP) — Physicians are using membranes from newborn babies to treat a 48-year-old woman whose body tissue has deteriorated because of a rare and often fatal skin disease.

Every day for the past two weeks, doctors have bandaged Cleophipps' diseased area with three amniotic membranes, which surround the baby in the mother's uterus.

It's the first time the "living dressing" has been used to treat the disease, which is so rare that its incidence is unknown, according to Dr. Fred Silverberg of Magee-Women's Hospital in Pittsburgh.

"The disease has stopped, it's no longer spread since we've been using the membranes. And the wound is healing about twice as fast as it normally would," Silverberg said Wednesday.

"Without it, I don't think she would have made it," said William Brown, a family friend.

Ms. Phillips, 48, suffers from necrotizing fasciitis, an infectious disease which is contagious in its early stages.

Because she is diabetic, Ms. Phillips was prone to acquiring serious infections, Silverberg said. In addition, her diabetes had not been controlled properly and she had been nutritionally deprived.

"The diabetes was not in good control because of the infection. In turn, the infection got worse. One affected the other. It was a vicious circle," Silverberg said.

The disease was killing her fascia, the tissue between her muscle and skin, at a rate of six inches a day, Silverberg said. "What's covering her belly is essentially her muscle," he said.

Within a few weeks, doctors hope the tissue will heal enough so Ms. Phillips can undergo a graft with her own skin.

Syrians basking in an atmosphere of ease & relaxation

DAMASCUS, March 18 (AP) — Syrians appear more willing to speak freely these days after years of intermittent army purges and strife between the government and Muslim activists.

Despite the ever-present possibility of renewed war with Israel, the atmosphere in this ancient capital is far more relaxed than it has been since June 1979 when the Muslim Brotherhood launched a campaign against President Hafez Assad's government.

"People are less afraid to speak openly now," observed one European diplomat, who declined use of his name.

One indication to this came in a government office on the eve of the 20th anniversary of the March 8 founding of Syria's ruling Socialist Baath Party, when a government official reeled off a joke that poked fun at the party's popularity.

The joke went like this: Assad, Libyan Col. Muammar Qaddafi and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak were riding in a jeep when suddenly they came across a lion sleeping in the road.

Unable to drive around the lion or wake him up, each leader in turn went and lifted the lion's ear and whispered a few words. But it was only when Assad spoke that the lion jumped up and ran off.

Asked by his companions what he had said, Assad — whose name means lion in Arabic — replied: "I offered him membership in the Baath Party." Such a joke would have been unthinkable a year ago when the toll of Baath Party officials who had been assassinated by anti-government elements had reached into the hundreds.

That violence culminated in a showdown in February 1982 between the Muslim Brotherhood's commandos and the "Defense Brigades" special forces of Assad's brother Rifaat



Hafez Assad



Muammar Qaddafi

in the Syrian town of Hama, 180 kilometers north of Damascus. More than 1,000 persons were killed and much of the city was devastated by artillery and tank fire.

The Israeli invasion of Lebanon last June brought an undeclared ceasefire between the Sunni fundamentalists and the government.

As a result, the government removed heavily armed security police and army soldiers who had stood guard on almost every major street corner and at the entrance to most government offices before the Hama battle. Also gone are the triple and quadruple locked steel doors on the inner offices of government ministers.

In a further sign of relaxation, a diplomatic source said the Syrians had released 500 prisoners from jail in the eastern city of Palmyra last December. It was not known how many of those who had been rounded up during the anti-fundamentalist campaign were still in jail.

In January 1982, diplomatic sources say, more than 200 army officers were rounded up and a planned coup was thwarted — the latest of many purges in the military, which has provided most of Syria's leaders since independence in 1946.

But there was no reluctance on the part of generals to debate Middle East politics at a dinner party recently in the home of Gen. Zuhair Ghazal, a top official in the presidency.

The easing of the police presence has also spurred more open criticism of the government. A taxi driver in his 20s, dressed in an army jacket and blue jeans, complained about the lack of organization and cohesion in Syria: "Everybody looks after himself here, the army, the police, everyone. But it's best I do not say more."

In the "Souq Al-Hamadiya," a covered market, a rug merchant complained about the lack of tourists and customers. "The Iranians don't have any money to spend," he said, declining to give his name out of concern for his safety. But the Iranians do smuggle out carpets and decorated boxes and jewelry to barter in Damascus.

A sign of increasingly close ties between Syria and the Iranian government of Ayatollah Khomeini is the recent arrival of hundreds of Iranian tourists. There are also about 1,500 Iranian Revolutionary Guards based in Syria and shuttling into the eastern Lebanon region to reinforce Syria's army.

Ex-King Umberto of Italy dies

ROME, March 18 (AP) — The last king of Italy, Umberto II, died Friday in Switzerland, said Falcone Lucifero, former head of the royal household.

"King Umberto is dead," Lucifero said. "The last word he uttered was 'Italia.' Umberto was 78. Umberto II, was forced into exile in 1946 after only 26 days on the throne and spent his late years trying to return to his homeland.

Bedridden with a bone disease, he requested through friends in 1982 for permission to return home and see Turin, Naples and Rome for the last time.

His appeal from a hospital bed in London and later in Geneva was met with sympathy among Italian politicians, even those who once feared that concessions to the former king could touch off monarchist sentiments.

Ex-King Umberto of Italy dies

In February, the Italian parliament took the first legal step toward repeal of the law prohibiting the king, his wife and male descendants from entering Italy. Almost all political parties supported the move, although the Communist party abstained from the vote.

Umberto's father, Victor Emmanuel III, had remained king during Benito Mussolini's dictatorship from 1922 to 1943, but saw his powers reduced to almost nothing. He abdicated in favor of his son on May 9, 1946, in a bid to save the monarchy. But most Italians remained bitter about the Savoy's association with Mussolini and passed a referendum on June 2 to end the monarchy, by a vote of 12.7 million to 10.7 million. The exile decree was later written into the constitution, though Umberto never officially abdicated.

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Video game shops will remain closed -- Majed

MAKKAH, March 18 — Makkah Governor Prince Majed has reaffirmed that electronic and video game shops in the Western Province will have to remain closed pending the findings of a special committee set up by Interior Minister Prince Naif, *Oman* reported Friday.

In cables to the governor of Taif, the acting mayor of Makkah, the mayor of Jeddah, the mayor of Taif and Makkah's police commander, Prince Majed said the shops must keep their shutters closed until the committee

486 rescued in flood-hit areas

By a Staff Writer

RIYADH, March 18 — Ten of the 12 civil defense teams which participated in the rescue operations in the villages of Al-Dolom and Hawtat Bani Tamim, worst hit by the torrential rains that submerged Riyadh and neighboring areas from early Tuesday morning to 8 p.m. Wednesday, were withdrawn after successfully saving hundreds of lives.

King Fahd, Crown Prince Abdullah, the first deputy premier and commander of the National Guard, Prince Sultan, the second deputy premier and minister of defense and aviation and all senior state officials, particu-

decides on the pros and cons of the games.

The committee is made up of the Interior Ministry's public affairs director; the education director of the Central Province; representatives from the Ministries of Municipal and Rural Affairs and Labor and Social Affairs and the presidency of the Board for the Promotion of Virtue and the Elimination of Vice. It is also seeking the advice of pedagogists from the Education Ministry and Imam Muhammad ibn Saud Islamic University.

French to explore investment plans

By Alfred Tabau

Arab News Staff

JEDDAH, March 18 — A 25-man delegation representing several French manufacturing firms will arrive in the Kingdom next week for a one-week visit to explore investment ventures. "The men, who are top executives in their respective companies, are coming here to find industrial partners in the fields of manufacturing and maintenance," said Jean-Marie Bourg, the commercial counselor at the French Embassy in Jeddah.

The team includes four bank executives who will lend financial support to any joint venture projects. Saudi Arabia is now witnessing a gradual shift by the private sector from trading and contracting to industry but

lary Riyadh Governor Prince Salman and his aides are closely following up the situation and giving their instructions.

A senior civil defense spokesman said that their teams saved 486 lives from Al-Dolom and 120 from Al-Helwa villages. An eight-year-old girl was heroically saved by the men with only minor injuries but her 12-year-old sister died as she reached the Public Security Hospital here.

The spokesman said that the men could not reach the disaster areas early enough because of complete darkness and electrical wires which hindered their advance.



Donald P. Trader

American trade mission due in Dhahran March 28

By Sarah Shah

Arab News Staff

JEDDAH, March 18 — An American team of experts on oil and gas field apparatus will begin a tour of the Middle East Saturday. They are expected to arrive in Dhahran on March 28 for a two-day visit.

Francis D. Manzillo, deputy director of the high technology industries division of the U.S. Department of Commerce, heads the team which, according to Donald P. Trader, American Embassy commercial officer here, will visit Kuwait (March 19-21) and Abu Dhabi (March 23-27) before coming to Dhahran.

Members of the 13-member mission are interested in developing business relationships with buyers and agents in the countries they visit. They represent a cross-section of the U.S. petroleum and natural gas equipment manufacturing and service industry.

Trade mission members include: James C. Jefferies, president, Biegert Aviation Inc.; Adel S. Maalouf, international sales director, International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation; Ari Boyaroff, Eastern Hemisphere manager, Reed American; Herbert Teague, president, Teague International; A. Bruce Gerhardt, assistant general manager, Gerhardt International; John Anthony Anbourn, regional sales director, Ferret International; and Hans Neigum, technical representative, Dearman International.

Zia set to open Islamic gathering

By Azhar Masood

Special to Arab News

ISLAMABAD, March 18 — Pakistani President Zia ul-Haq is scheduled to inaugurate Saturday the Second International Conference on Islamic Economics organized by the Saudi Arabian-funded Islamic University of Islamabad.

"Development, distribution and finance" in the Islamic concept of economy will be the main topic during the conference which will continue until March 23.

A large group of economic experts from King Abdul Aziz University will participate in the conference. These include: Dr. Omar, Dr. Muhammad Zubair, Dr. Saeed Ba-Makkrama, Dr. Al-Raddady, Dr. Hassan O Balki, Dr. Malik Al-Sayed, Dr. Abdin Salama, Dr. Aus Al-Zaka, Dr. Rafiq Al-Masri, Dr. Abdullah Amin, Dr. Muhammad Najatullah, Dr. Manan and Dr. Madni Alaqi.

The president of the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank, Dr. Ahmad Muhammad Ali, and 14 other prominent economists from various Saudi Arabian universities and institutes will also participate.

Economists and experts on Islamic economy from Egypt, Sudan, Kuwait, Jordan, Turkey, the UAE, India, Malaysia, Nigeria, Bangladesh, Tunisia, Australia and the United States will read their papers.

Enterprising Saudi group wants to go public

By K.S. Ramkumar

Arab News Staff

JEDDAH, March 18 — From the Kingdom's foreign service to the leadership of a major enterprising Saudi Arabian group could be a long way, but not so for Hani S. Emam who has made a success of it with rapid diversification and is awaiting government approval for converting it into a public body.

"We are extremely interested in the concept of public companies which the government is encouraging. The government desires that businesses should really go public and that every new business be established on public company lines, to give the ordinary investor an opportunity to find an outlet for his investment," Emam said in an interview with *Arab News*. "The Kingdom has achieved a great deal of infrastructural progress and development of any business is now within the reach of enterprisers," he added.

Explaining why he wants to go public, Emam said: "I can take pride in saying that I never approached business as a lone wolf. We have always approached business together, as a group of people, thereby broadening the concept of sharing risks and reward."

Talking about his own group — Saudi Technical Services and Trading (STST) and a group of companies, Emam said he is now concentrating on bringing the entire group under one holding entity concept.

"We do have limitations. How much we can do in this respect is anybody's guess," he explained. "What we can immediately do is to consolidate 100 percent on the activities that are being undertaken by the Saudi Arabians, but we cannot consolidate the foreign shareholders' interests in the individual activities under one banner."

"The foreign capital investment regulations prohibit a foreign shareholder from doing a business or sharing a business that is outside the licensed activity," Emam added. "So, if he is a shareholder with me in a shipping company, he cannot become a shareholder in insurance, manufacturing, banking or any other activity."

What he is envisaging, Emam said, is a single holding entity run by a Saudi Arabian group with different subsidiary operations. The subsidiaries will be in the form of limited liability in which the holding company will have a majority shareholding. There could be different foreign partners in different activities.

Such a consolidation, he said, will "help us pool our resources in an effective manner and new fields of business activities can be planned," Emam said.

The STST is the sole proprietary concern of Emam, who since 1971 has been a promoting partner for all its existing group of companies, handling corporate as well as local management affairs for virtually all the group's Saudi Arabian ventures, including finance, central accounts, audit, taxation, government relations, marketing, etc. It also provides management support services for almost all the group members, including headquarters facilities.

The STST's commercial vehicles division distributes Mack trucks of the United States, Tata trucks and buses of India, and Hercules-Butler trailers and dump equipment of the United States. Its furniture division distributes products of Drexel Heritage Furnishings Inc. of the U.S., Dixie Furniture company of the U.S., and Interdesign of Lebanon.

It has also a fast food division being managed by ROC Embassy names new press secretary

JEDDAH, March 18 — Osman Chia has been appointed secretary of the press counselor's office of the Embassy of the Republic of China (Taiwan) re-placing Yahya Mosa Wang who left for Taipei Thursday. Chia arrived in Jeddah recently.

Chia, 30, who has M.A. from the Chinese Culture University in Taipei, was editor of *Mainland China Affairs* weekly published by the Information Office. In Taipei.



Hani S. Emam

aged by Sharat Malhotra, with the first "Urjwan" restaurant doing brisk business at the Sahari Shopping Mall here, and a Tyler refrigeration division.

Its 19 subsidiary companies include Universal Arab Holding Ltd. (Cayman Islands); Arab International Trust Ltd., U.K. (banking and finance); Saudi International Investment Company (holding and finance); Saudi American Bank (Citibank); Saudi Security and Technical Services Co. Ltd. in association with Sedgwick Forbes (insurance); National Real Estate Development and Management (property); Saudi Real Estate Development Company.

Also are Saudi Braun Ltd. (petrochemical & oil engineering and construction); Saudi Marine Transportation, a joint company with the Total of France and the Andres Jahre of

Norway (owning, chartering and operating oil tankers); Saudi Arabian Falcon Shipping & Transportation Co. Ltd. (ownership, chartering, management and operating of maritime and other types of shipping and transportation vessels); Saudi Concrete Prefab Industries; Saudi Ennas Company Ltd. (electro-mechanical contracting and maintenance).

Saudi Vincotte, a joint company with Vincotte of Belgium (inspection and quality control); National Clay Brick and Building Materials Industries Company Ltd.; Arabian T.R. Oil Services, a joint company with the Tros and Hoechst (chemical manufacturing and processing); Nepro Plastics; Jubail Fabrication Industries, a joint company with the Union Industrielle et d'Entreprise of France for producing offshore platforms, decks, modules, piping pre-fabrication and skid-mounted units; and Tamimi & Fouad & Al-Emam Food Company Ltd. (Safeway, Jeddah) for maintenance and operation of supermarkets in the Western Region of Saudi Arabia under the management of Safeway of America are the other companies.

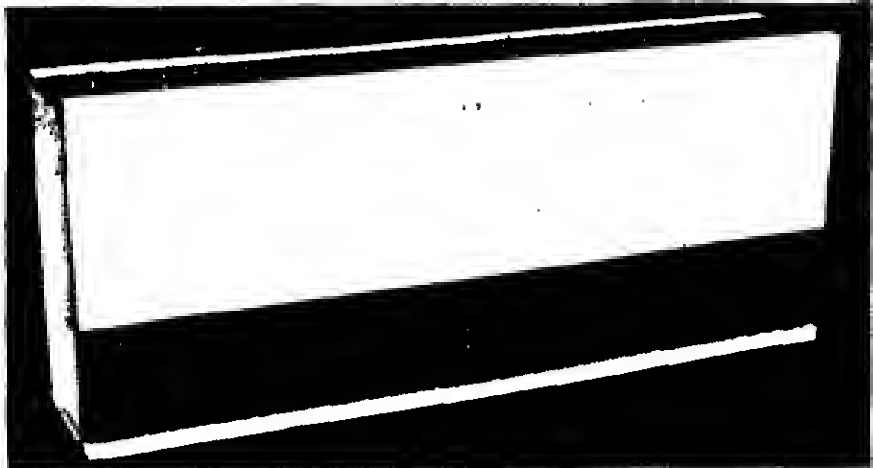
"We have been able to diversify," Emam said, "thanks to the opportunities that came our way, and diversification being a challenging task, we are going into a computerized system that will cope with the process of consolidation that we are striving for in each single activity of ours."

Emam said, "Our record of success has been satisfactory and failure negligible in every activity that we have undertaken. Each activity of ours is an autonomous operation. We only given them administrative and financial support. We go by the results each management brings us toward each year-end."

Emam, who attended the recently ended three-day businessmen's conference in Dhahran, said the various ministers participating in the deliberations "told us how much the government is concerned about the private sector's progress."

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مكتبة الادب

Ministry of Communications report:

Saudi road construction reaching new milestone

By Javid Hassan
Riyadh Bureau

RIYADH, March 18 — The Ministry of Communications had laid out over 25,000 kilometers each of asphalted and agricultural feeder roads, at the rate of 1,900 kilometers of new roads per year. It has been sending groups of Saudi Arabian engineers abroad on scholarship programs and specialized universities and has been consistently supporting Saudi Arabian contractors by awarding projects that suit their capabilities. This was revealed in the latest publication on land and marine transportation published by the ministry.

The publication points out that when the road building program started in 1954, the total length of roads in the Kingdom was 237 kilometers. This increased to 4,000 kilometers by 1963, shooting up to 19,000 kilometers by 1978. Thus 15,000 kilometers of paved roads were built in 15 years, averaging 1,000 kilometers per year. Considered a record in

itself, the ministry did better by constructing 1,900 kilometers of road per year between 1978 and '82.

On the railroad front, the publication points out, the Kingdom reached a new milestone when King Abdul Aziz inaugurated the Riyadh-dammam railway in 1951 with a golden spike. Since then, Saudi Rail has gone ahead with a project to open a new line via Hofuf to shorten the distance between the two points.

Referring to the road works, the publication states that the program has been taken up in three stages. In the first stage the goal was to connect the main regions of the Kingdom with the required road network, ensuring that it passes through the largest number of towns and villages. During the second stage, facilities were provided for the growth of transport and traffic movement expected on primary roads and for expanding or constructing dual roads or converting them into expressways. The third stage saw the improvement of road maintenance and safety services.



TRAVEL SHOW: The 'Holiday '83 Travel Show' was held in Alkhobar at the Al-Gosaibi Hotel from March 14-18. Shown here are Ahmad Al-Gosaibi, left, owner of the hotel and right, American Consul General James Ealum.

'Holiday '83 Travel Show' promotes new tourist spots

By Jean Grant
Alkhobar Bureau

ALKHOBAR, March 18 — Thirty-six airlines and tourist offices vied for their share of the Eastern Province travel market here during the March 14-18 'Holiday '83 Travel Show' at the Al-Gosaibi Hotel.

The top holiday destinations remain Cyprus, Kenya, the Far East and India. Kanoo Holidays, however, the package holiday branch of Kanoo, the largest travel agency in the area, is promoting the Maldives for deep sea diving and Zimbabwe, latest of the big game sites, as their newest holiday destinations.

Culture runs a poor second to sport in promoting holidays although Air-India uses that country's many Islamic monuments as a drawing card.

Virtually all the airlines offer package holiday tours. Saudia, for instance, offers such tours to Thailand, India, Kenya, the

Telephone delegation on recruiting mission

By a Staff Writer

RIYADH, March 18 — A delegation from Saudi Telephone left on March 12 for a four-week recruitment mission to the United States. The delegation headed by Saleh Al-Omar, director of Saudization, intends to discuss with Saudi Arabian nationals, currently studying in the United States, the many career opportunities that now exist at Saudi Telephone.

The recruitment delegation is comprised of Fahad Muhammad Al-Basri, Riyadh district manager, Samir Dahlan, Makkah district manager, and Saleh Al-Omar. This delegation plans to visit the Saudi Arabian Educational Mission in Houston prior to the beginning of the tour of four major university campuses throughout the United States.

Magreb, and Spain as well as what it terms "Europacks," and "Americapacks." Even carriers like Lufthansa whose market is mainly individual travel, are now going the package route.

Round-the-world tickets are slated to become more popular. Saudia started its round-the-world in 180 days junket in conjunction with Pan American just four months ago. Most of these fares are limited to three months, but Ounatas, the most expensive of the round-the-world itineraries allows unlimited free stopovers during one full year of travel.

Pan American Airlines and the Greek Tourist Office left all the others far behind in the quality of their display. Pan Am dug out of its archives a series of lithographs to depict its history. The prints show the old "flying boats" that took off from water in 1928-36. One such pioneering craft was the luxurious Old China Clipper whose lucky passengers traveled in grand style with such heroes as Charles Lindbergh in the cockpit.

Pan Am eagerly emphasized its new sleeperettes and offered polaroid pictures of anyone who would pose in these sleek "beds."

The Greek Tourist Office exhibit was gaily decorated like a Greek National Guard barracks at feast time. Original paintings of traditional Greek architecture — the Acropolis, the windmills of Mykonos, the pillar of Knossos in Crete — were hung on ochre panels.

The Greeks were offering posters to all comers as well as woven handbags which proved to be convenient for toting around the stash of travel brochures and airline timetables being distributed throughout the Al-Gosaibi's Exhibition Hall. As the *sirtaki* music twanged, young Saudi Arabians eagerly snapped up posters of the grandeur that was Greece and heard how the devalued drachma has made that country less expensive for tourists.

Tabuk water plant studied; SR730m contracts expected

JEDDAH, March 18 — Studies are under way by the Saline Water Conversion Corporation (SWCC) to build a new desalination and power generating plant to supply drinking water and electricity to Tabuk, Al-Madinah reported.

The plant will be built at a 150-kilometer distance from the city. The technical specifications for the plant have been completed. It will produce 25 million gallons of potable water a day through a pipeline with several pumps to push the water ahead to Tabuk.

Meanwhile, the Water and Sewage Department of the Western Province is expected soon to give the green light for the implementation of contracts totaling SR730

million. Makkah Governor Prince Majed will chair a meeting of the department's board for this purpose soon, according to Fahd Al-Sulayman, the department's director general. Sulayman said that the meeting will commission the projects which had already been subjected to tenders and whose bids had been analyzed. The prince will ratify the decisions, in his capacity as president of the board.

In other developments, integrated centers will be built here for the settlement of water, electricity, telegraph and telephone bills in one place, to make it unnecessary for subscribers to run from one place to another to settle various bills and waste time, energy and man-hours for the state.

The decision was taken at a meeting of directors of public service administrations and departments here under Jeddah Mayor Muhammad Saeed Farsi at the headquarters of the Western Province Health Affairs Department.

Mayor Farsi said that the first such center will be set up under King Fahd Bridge, because of the availability of parking places. Other centers will follow in various parts of the city.

National center training extended

LONDON, March 18 (SPA) — With more than 3,000 government officials completing course at the National Center for Training and Social Development a joint venture with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) has been extended for another three years, according to Social Affairs Minister Ibrahim Al-Ankari.

In an interview with the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), Ankari said that the Kingdom will meet 85 percent of the costs for the extended program, while UNDP will meet 15 percent. Saudi Arabia will provide the necessary centers, equipment and operating funds.

The center was established in 1980 in cooperation with UNDP and has carried out 20 field research studies. The program follows scientific methods and strives to coordinate private and public sector efforts in order to improve community economic and social conditions.

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	Makkah	Madinah	Riyadh	Dammam	Buraidah	Tabuk
Saturday						
Fajr (Dawn)	5:02	5:03	4:34	4:21	4:46	5:15
Dhuhr (Noon)	12:29	12:30	12:01	11:48	12:12	12:42
Assr (Afternoon)	3:53	3:55	3:27	3:14	3:38	4:08
Maghreb (Sunset)	6:32	6:33	6:04	5:51	6:15	6:45
Isha (Night)	8:02	8:03	7:34	7:21	7:45	8:15

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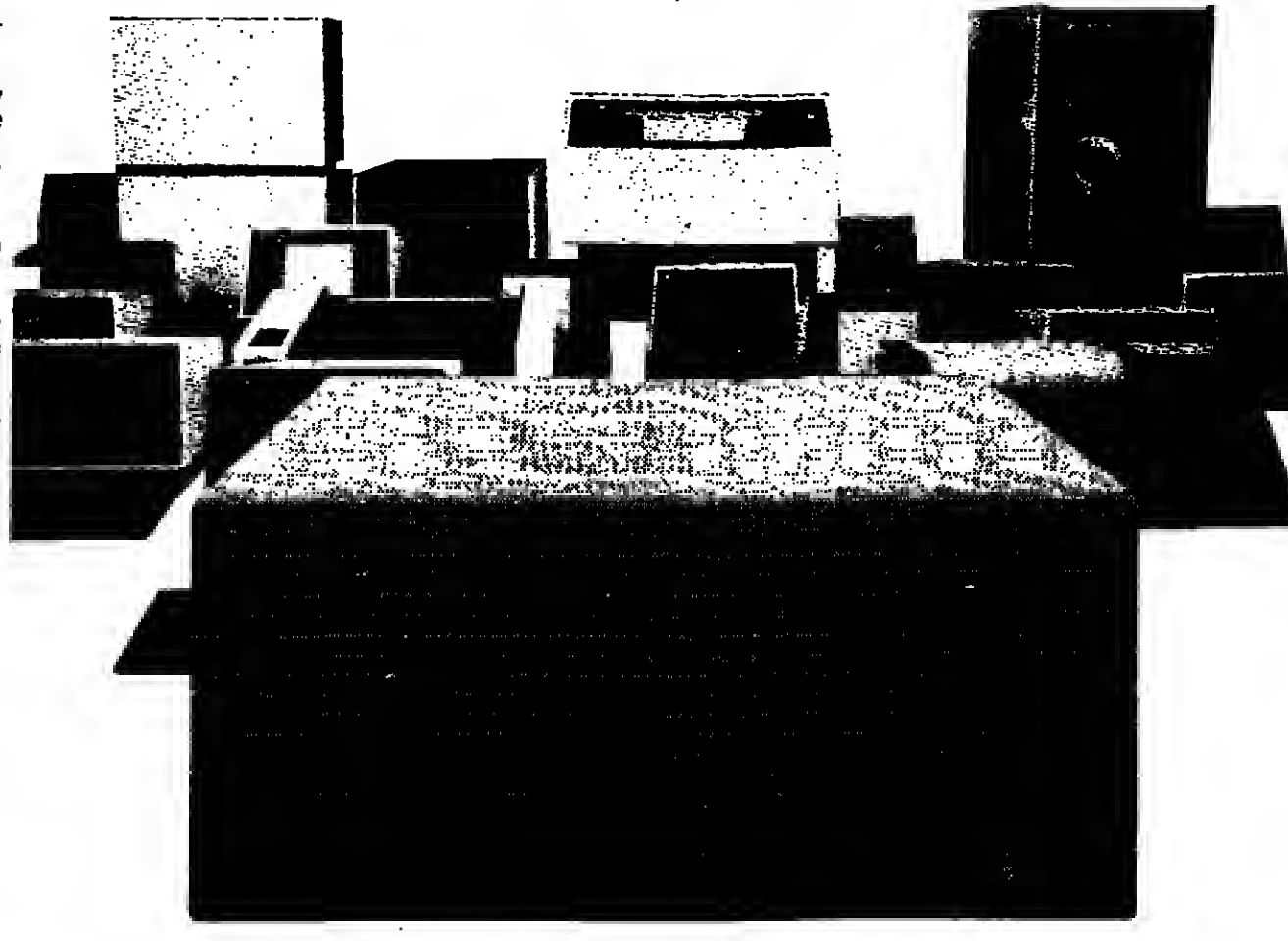
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U.S. plan for pullout

Accord within 48 hours if Israel agrees - - Salam

WASHINGTON, March 18 (Agencies) — Special Lebanese envoy Saeb Salam said Thursday that a reasonable response by the Israeli government to U.S. suggestions could produce immediate agreement on foreign troop withdrawals from Lebanon.

"If the Israelis are reasonable at all, I think it could finish within 48 hours," Salam told a luncheon of the American Enterprise Institute, a private research group.

Salam said he was impressed, during talks Wednesday at the White House, by U.S. President Ronald Reagan's desire for a Middle East solution.

He said he wasn't informed of all the U.S. suggestions that Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir took back to Israel, "but I know that the Americans put some ideas in his head which were very far from the ideas he came with."

Salam said he was sure Israeli agreement would be followed by agreements from Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organization. "We have written pledges from the Syrians and the Palestinians that they would leave, and I have no reason to doubt this," Salam

said. He said the Lebanese conviction that withdrawals would be complete was supported by the success of U.S.-sponsored talks last August that led to the departure of PLO fighters and Israeli troops from Beirut.

"It was exactly the same question again, who would leave first, and we succeeded in having them all leave," Salam said.

Lebanese officials were quoted by Beirut radio as saying they were satisfied with still-unpublished U.S. proposals.

Afghan talks in Geneva set for April 11

UNITED NATIONS, March 18 (Agencies) — The next round of U.N. talks on the Afghan situation will begin in Geneva on April 11, a spokesman said here Thursday. They are open-ended, he added, but "the working assumption is that they will go on to April 22."

Afghanistan and Pakistan will hold the talks through Diego Cordovez, U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar's personal representative on the issue.

An estimated 105,000 Soviet troops are in Afghanistan trying to put down a resistance against Bakr Karmal's Communist government. Karmal took over in December 1979 from Hafizullah Amin, assassinated after the Soviet intervention began.

Over two million Afghan refugees are reported in Pakistan.

The rate of the Afghan refugee influx has suddenly gone up and an average of 8,000 displaced Afghans were daily crossing into Pakistan.

The Afghan refugee commissioner in the North West Frontier Province of Pakistan told a news conference in Peshawar Thursday that the total refugee population in the Pakistani province has now gone up to 2.15 million while nearly one third of this figure was sheltered in Baluchistan province located on the Iran and Afghanistan frontiers.

He said seventeen national and international voluntary organizations were engaged in providing medical assistance to these refugees and the relief goods were coming mostly from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and some friendly countries.

According to another report the Soviet Union Thursday signed an agreement with Afghanistan to improve facilities at Kabul Airport, Radio Kabul reported.



ISRAELI FIRING: Four girls were wounded in Saida, South Lebanon, Wednesday during the biggest demonstration by Palestinians since the Israeli invasion last June. The demonstrators in the Ain Helweh refugee camp in the south of this major South Lebanese city were calling for the freeing of prisoners held in the Ansar detention camp. Picture shows an injured woman lying on the ground and another being helped by two persons.

BRIEFS

RABAT (R) — King Hassan of Morocco has called for an urgent meeting of the Organization of Islamic Conference because of recent incidents in occupied Jerusalem's Islamic holy places, the Moroccan news agency Map said Thursday.

He has summoned the organization's Jerusalem Committee to meet in Morocco next week "to examine the dangerous situation caused by repeated aggressions against the Al-Aqsa Mosque" in Arab East Jerusalem, the agency reported.

VIENNA (R) — Czechoslovakia has granted diplomatic status to the Palestine Liberation Organization office in Prague, the official Ceteka news agency reported Thursday. The agency said Foreign Minister Bohuslav Choupek described the decision as an expression of principled support for the Arab people of Palestine.

CAIRO (AP) — Security sources Thursday ordered the release of 10 Muslim activists who had been held on suspicion of involvement in anti-state activity, the Middle East News Agency said. Authorities have recently been systematically announcing the release of detainees who have been cleared of suspicions.

BAHRAIN (R) — Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), discussed the Palestinian issue with North Yemen President Ali Abdullah Saleh in Sanaa Thursday, the Gulf News Agency reported.

LONDON (AP) — The personal diary of the late King Faisal of Iraq during the 1919 Paris peace conference containing his draft proposals for the creation of six independent

Arab states will be auctioned at Sotheby's on March 28. The auction house said the diary, written in Arabic, also refers to a meeting with Chaim Weizmann, who became the first president of Israel, and the need for a Palestinian state.

LISBON (AFP) — Vice President of the Socialist International Mario Soares said here Wednesday that one solution to the Middle East crisis was self-determination for the Palestinians with Jordan's collaboration. He was giving a press conference on the findings of the Socialist International's delegation which visited several Middle East countries in February.

CAIRO (AFP) — Egypt will take part in the Organization of African Unity summit conference now scheduled to be held in Addis Ababa in June, it was announced here Friday. Egypt was one of the most noticeable absentees during the two unsuccessful attempts to hold the 19th OAU summit, which should have taken place in Tripoli, Libya, last year, but were abandoned for lack of a quorum.

Council to take up Chad issue

UNITED NATIONS, New York, March 18 (AFP) — Security Council members, meeting in private, failed Thursday to set a date for a hearing on Chad's complaint about Libyan "aggression" and "occupation" of Chadian territory.

Further discussion among council members on Friday was considered likely to lead to a formal session on Monday, but Security Council sources doubted Chad's chances of lining up the nine votes which would be needed to pass a resolution condemning Libya.

Chad earlier had asked for an urgent meeting of the U.N. body "to examine the extremely serious situation prevailing in Chad as a result of the occupation of a part of Chad territory by Libya and repeated acts of aggression by that country against the people of Chad."

Chad's U.N. representative Ramadan Barma complained that "since 1973, Libya has not only been in military occupation of

that part of Chadian territory commonly known as the Aouzou Strip, but has also been openly interfering in the internal affairs of Chad, in flagrant violation of the U.N. Charter and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly."

Libyan representative Ali Triki, a meeting with the council president, denied the Chadian accusations. He said Libya was neither occupying Chadian territory nor attacking.

Libya claims sovereignty over the Aouzou Strip — a wild region which may contain uranium deposits — while Chad maintains that the region, occupied by Libya for a decade, is part of its territory.

An informed source said the Chadian complaint had not been prompted by drastic changes in the military situation in northern Chad, where Libya is backing an alternative government headed by Goukouni Weddeye, who was ousted by President Hissene Habre last June.

Libya assured of Soviet support

MOSCOW, March 18 (Agencies) — The Soviet Union is ready to help Libya in reinforcing its military potential, Soviet Premier Nikolai Tikhonov has suggested.

In a dinner banquet in honor of Libya's visiting deputy leader, Maj. Abdul Salam Jalloud, the premier said Thursday: "It is sincerely hoped here in the Soviet Union for Libya, an economically developed state, to play an important positive role in international relations and to be capable of a riposte to any infringements on its sovereignty from the outside."

The premier added that "the many-sided assistance we have been giving your country...is designed to contribute to this objective." The Soviet Union, according to experts, is already Libya's foremost supplier of arms.

Maj. Jalloud said that Libya was a "prime target" of the United States and its Central Intelligence Agency, which he charged with waging "psychological warfare and acts of subversion" against his country.

Jalloud told his hosts that President Ronald Reagan's plan for peace in the Middle East "is a plan of war and not a plan of peace," Tass reported.

"The (current) United States administration is the most reactionary of all American administrations and strives to put an end to the socialist and democratic gains achieved

by the peoples in the struggle for liberation. We see that American neocolonialism is beginning to take the place of European colonialism by using its monopolies, by creating the Rapid Deployment Force. The purpose of the so-called Reagan plan is to establish the control of the United States over the Middle East and to put an end to the Palestinians," Jalloud was quoted as saying.

U.S. clamps curbs on Libyan students

WASHINGTON, March 18 (AP) — The United States has banned Libyan students from courses in the fields of aviation and nuclear physics at U.S. universities.

The order, from the immigration division of the Justice Department, also applied to "third country nationals acting on behalf of Libyans."

The ban, effective immediately, was gazetted this month in the Federal Register, which said Secretary of State George Shultz had opened that such studies by Libyans could be "detrimental to the security of the United States."

The State Department has already stopped issuing non-immigrant visas for Libyans intending to study in the United States.

Grenades hurled at French troops

BEIRUT, March 18 (AP) — A lone assailant hurled two hand grenades at a French peacekeeping post in West Beirut early Friday, the fourth straight day of attacks on the multinational force in Lebanon, the French command said.

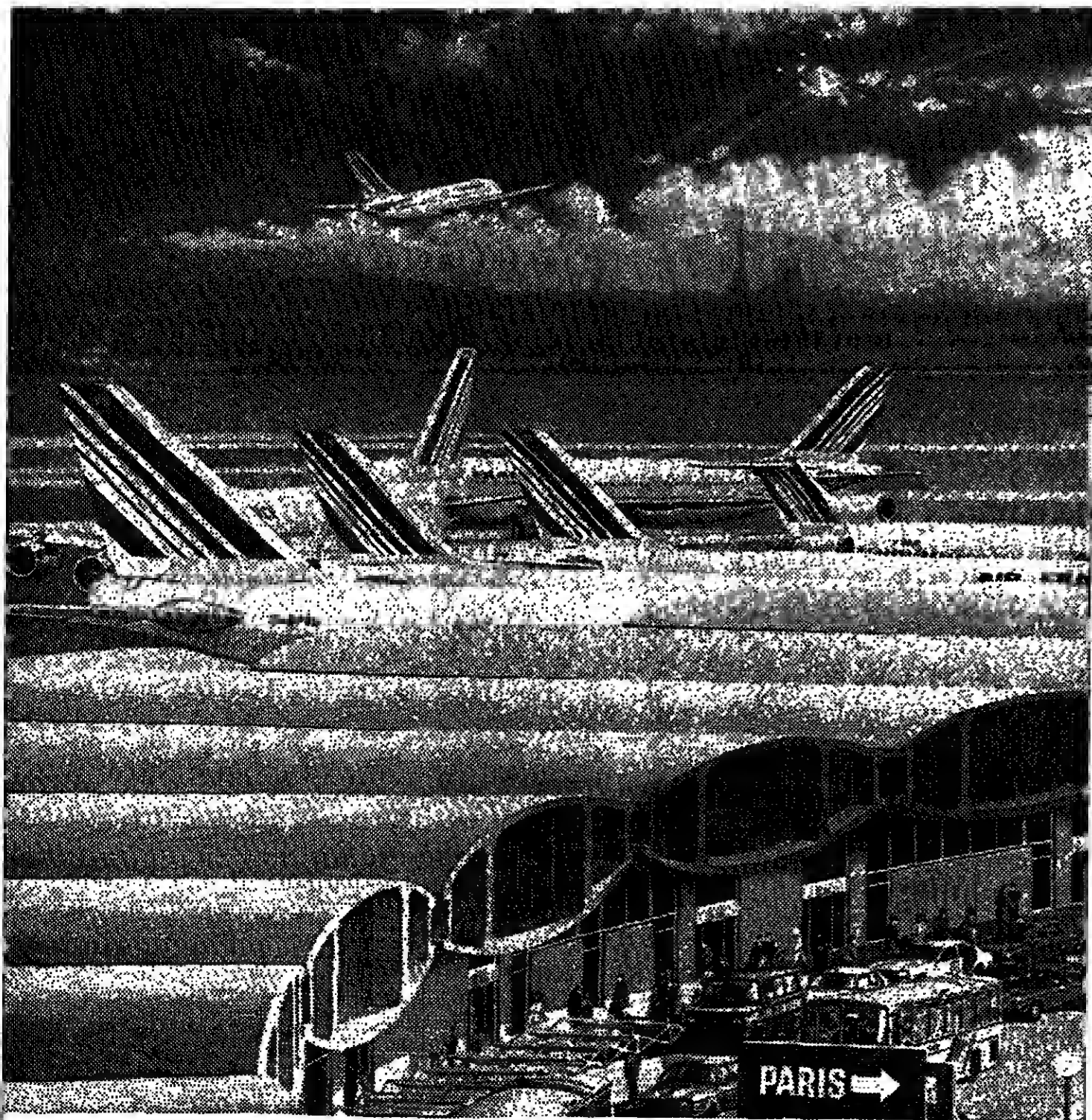
A statement issued by the French contingent said one of the two grenades went off, the other failed to explode and none of the 30 French troops manning the sand-bagged post was injured.

Benjedid begins Tunisian visit

TUNIS, March 18 (R) — Algerian President Chadli Benjedid arrived in Tunis Friday for a three-day official visit, his first to a neighboring country since being elected head of state in 1980.

He was welcomed by President Habib Bourguiba, with members of the government led by Prime Minister Muhammad Mzali. The visit is seen as the culmination of a process of normalizing their relations over the past three years.

Relations became strained when commandos from Libya attacked the Tunisian mining town of Gafsa in January 1980 and evidence given at a subsequent trial suggested Algerian complicity. But the Tunisian president absolved Algeria of involvement.



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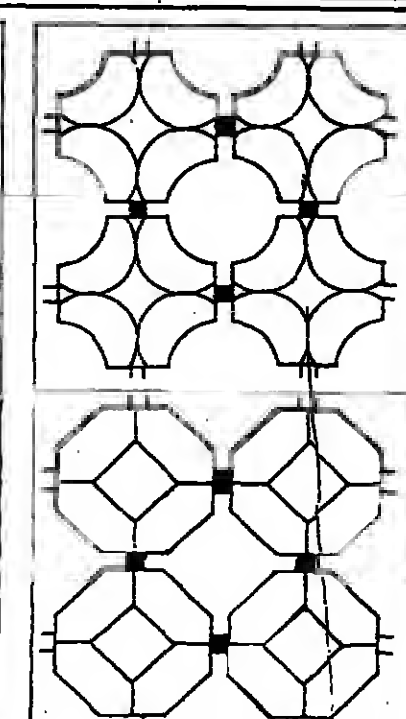
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Nicaragua alleges invasion by exiles

MANAGUA, March 18 (AP) — As many as 1,500 Nicaraguan exiles have invaded northern points along the Honduran border and have been fighting regular army troops for the past two weeks, a government leader said Thursday.

Rafael Cordova Rivas, a member of the ruling three-man Sandinista junta, said the force consisting of 500 to 1,500 exiles "were probably airlifted" into Nicaragua from across the Honduran border.

Cordova Rivas made the statement to reporters after a ceremony when the new Honduran ambassador, Hector Pineda Lopez, presented credentials. When asked about it, Pineda Lopez denied the report. "The counterrevolutionary hands that penetrated Nicaragua from Honduras are only press rumors," Pineda Lopez said and refused to elaborate.

Cordova Rivas said he had reports of fighting around Matagalpa, a city 81 miles north of the capital, and in the nearby towns of San Dionisio, San Ramon, Matigues, San Jose de las Mulas and Esquipulas. Other government sources, who asked not to be identified by name for diplomatic reasons, said three army troops and five civilians have been killed in the fighting.

"There is still doubt as to how the anti-

Sandinistas came in, but we think they were probably airlifted across the northern border," Cordova Rivas said. "We understand that what they're trying to do with this offensive is to form an internal front supplied from the northern border."

Cordova Rivas claimed there was "heavy fighting" in the area, but he gave no details. Relations between Nicaragua and Honduras, and the United States, have steadily worsened since the Sandinistas came to power in 1979.

The Reagan administration cut off all aid to Nicaragua in 1981, accusing the Sandinistas of helping funnel Soviet and Cuban military aid to leftist guerrillas fighting for power in neighboring El Salvador.

Sandinista spokesmen have denied this and instead accused the United States and Honduras of trying to overthrow the Nicaraguan government by encouraging several thousand exiles to mount raids inside Nicaragua from havens in Honduras.

Honduras and other neighboring countries have also been expressing concern over a huge military buildup with Soviet and Cuban help far beyond Nicaragua's defense needs. The United States has been increasing military aid to El Salvador and Honduras as a result.

Samuel Doe opens border

ABIDJAN, March 18 (R) — Liberian head of state Samuel Doe ordered the reopening of the border with Sierra Leone which he closed last month after a Freetown magazine falsely reported he had killed his wife. Doe's announcement was broadcast by Monrovia's Elwa radio station, monitored here.

He also ordered the withdrawal of some 3,500 Liberian troops who were dispatched to the frontier at the height of the crisis. "We have directed the minister of national defense and the chief of defense staff to withdraw the troops from the border effective immediately to allow the normal flow of traffic and movement of people by land, air and sea," Doe said.

The border was closed on Feb. 21 after the Freetown weekly *Progress* published an article suggesting Doe had shot dead his wife Nancy for trying to poison him. She has since been seen in public.

Doe said his decision followed talks with African leaders at last week's nonaligned summit in New Delhi. He said he had been insulted by the indifference shown by the Sierra Leone government. President Siaka Stevens briefly detained the editor of *Progress* but made it clear he felt Doe's reaction to an article in an independent journal was exaggerated.

Guatemala accused of killing

WASHINGTON, March 18 (AP) — An American human rights group said the Guatemalan Army is carrying out "virtually indiscriminate murder" of the Indian population as part of its effort to pacify the countryside.

The charge was made by two members of Americas Watch, a privately sponsored human rights group, who recently spent a week interviewing Guatemalan refugees living in southern Mexico.

Stephen L. Kass, a New York attorney, and Robert K. Goldman, a law professor at American University, outlined their findings at a news conference.

Claiming an improved human rights situation in Guatemala, the Reagan administration lifted an embargo on arms sales to the

Central American country earlier this year. Kass said the principal feature of the Guatemala government's rural pacification program is the "virtually indiscriminate murder of men, women and children of any farm regarded by the army as possibly supportive of insurgents."

Based on the refugee interviews, Kass said rural women suspected of guerrilla sympathies are frequently assaulted before being shot and "children are treated in the most brutally imaginable way."

"They are thrown into burning homes. They are thrown in the air and speared with bayonets. We heard many, many stories of children being picked up by the ankles and swung against poles so their heads are destroyed," Kass said.

Australia to normalize Soviet ties

CANBERRA, March 18 (AFP) — Prime Minister Bob Hawke on Friday announced that Australia would move to re-establish normal relations with the Soviet Union which have been disrupted since the former federal government imposed restrictions in 1979 in protest at the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

He told journalists that Australia would still maintain its protest against the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan but his government did not want to be placed in the hypocritical position where Australia still traded with the Soviet Union but did not conduct normal relations in other fields. The previous government led by Malcolm Fraser

imposed a series of bans to demonstrate its opposition to the Soviet Union's action.

These included the discouragement of athletes participating in the 1980 Moscow Olympic Games, support of the United States embargo on grain sales, suspension of visits by top-ranking Soviet officials, termination of scientific and cultural exchanges and the withdrawal of rights of Soviet cruise vessels to use Australian ports.

At the same time, the Soviet Union remained an important customer for Australian wheat, wool and mutton. Hawke said that the resumption of normal diplomatic relations would be approached in a "cautious and constructive" manner.

Japan harbors ambition — Tass

MOSCOW, March 18 (AFP) — Japan harbors "illegitimate territorial ambitions" vis-a-vis the Soviet Union, the Tass news agency charged here. The Tass commentary singled out Japanese Education Minister Mitsu Setoyama for "chauvinistically" proposing to the Diet that history texts include chapters on Japan's claim to some of the Soviet-occupied Kurile Islands, a few miles off the eastern coast of Hokkaido, the northern main island.

The education minister aroused the "indignation of all who suffered from Japanese aggression" by seeking to "rewrite history" for the benefit of the "militarists," Tass said.

The Soviet Union occupied the tiny islands, some of which are in sight of Hokkaido, during World War II, and Tokyo has called for their restitution to Japan ever since.

The official Soviet position maintains that "there is no territorial problem between Japan and the Soviet Union," according to Tass.

Meantime, the Soviet *Kommunist* magazine criticized in its latest issue the strengthening of Japan's military with the aim of carrying out the "aggressive policies" of U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

The magazine charged that Japan "sacrificed its relations with the Soviet Union to the imperial ambitions and caprices of its (American) ally."

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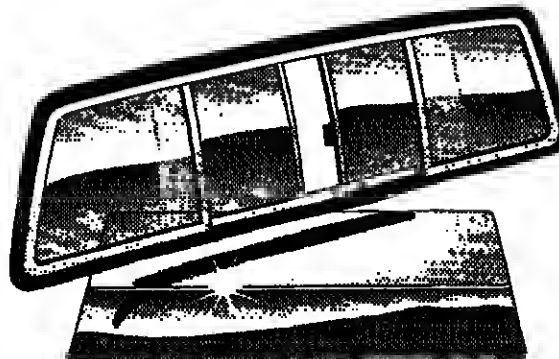
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U.S. plans to spend \$1,900b on defense

WASHINGTON, March 18 (R) — The Reagan administration plans to spend \$1,900 billion on defense in the five years from 1985 to 1989, \$300 billion more than previously estimated, according to a secret military guidance paper.

Officials said the document, defense guidance, had been approved by Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger and was designed to be the official statement of U.S. military policy. In a reversal from last year's guidance document, there was no mention of "protracted nuclear war," officials who have seen it told Reuters. "That got struck out early on," one official said.

The phrase sent shock waves through U.S. allies in Western Europe who interpreted it to mean that the United States was planning to wage and win a nuclear war. When the wording of last year's paper leaked to the press, Weinberger and other officials took

great pains to assure the public there was no plan to fight a nuclear war. They said the phrase simply meant Washington was arming in order to be able to fight an after a Soviet first-strike.

The officials quoted this year's guidance as saying: "Our fundamental aim is to restore a safer balance of deterrence. It will not, however, recover U.S. nuclear superiority over the Soviet Union. We and our allies cannot expect to match the Soviets in many quantitative measures of military power. But there are many qualitative dimensions wherein the U.S. possesses compensating strengths and advantages."

Weinberger wrote in the document that the aim of U.S. strategy was to convince Moscow that "should deterrence fail, the Soviets will not increase their territorial domination without incurring extreme risks and unacceptable costs."

200 cleared in Italy lodge case

ROME, March 18 (R) — A Rome magistrate cleared some 200 public officials and political figures of wrongdoing after a two-year inquiry into alleged scandals revolving around the illegal "Propaganda Two" (P2) Masonic Lodge.

Investigating Magistrate Ernesto Cudillo announced Thursday that proceedings against top Milan justice officials, a former head of the Supreme Magistrates Council and senior Socialist and Christian Democratic politicians would mostly be shelved.

Publication of the names of nearly 1,000 alleged members of the Masonic Lodge in 1981 set off a scandal which brought down the government of Christian Democratic Prime

Minister Arnaldo Forlani. Several government officials were forced to resign and more than 300 civil servants were disciplined.

The judge said Thursday that there was no evidence to justify charges against the officials and offered an amnesty on minor charges to lodge Grand Master Licio Gelli, whom Italy is seeking to extradite from Switzerland. But justice officials said Gelli would still face major charges including political and military espionage.

In a related development, another magistrate asked Italy's highest appeal court to transfer from Rome the judicial control of an inquiry into alleged expense account abuses by top judges in the Supreme Magistrates' Council.

South Africa protests to Newsweek

JOHANNESBURG, March 18 (AP) — South Africa has complained to the American magazine Newsweek about its current cover story on apartheid, contending it gives an unfair picture of the nation's race segregation and plans for change.

It was the third incident in two days in which the white-minority government moved against reporters for foreign publications, and the second time in as many days that a correspondent of the Washington Post Co. was involved.

The government-controlled South African Broadcasting Corp. reported Thursday that Pretoria's ambassador to Washington, Brand Fourie, sent a telegram of protest to Newsweek offices in New York.

The telegram accused the magazine of "blatant representations" of government policies and said the cover story was "little more than a jumbled assortment of inaccuracies," the SABC said.

Newsweek's correspondent for southern Africa, Holger Jensen, said, "I stand by the story, I am sure a majority of the population of South Africa will agree that it is not a gross distortion."

A spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Information refused to discuss the issue publicly. Jensen said the ministry had contacted him Thursday, expressing "shock, outrage and disappointment" over the article. Jensen said he was told there may be "further repercussions."

Meanwhile, the U.S. government deplored South Africa's "harassment" of Alister Sparks, correspondent of the U.S. daily Washington Post and the British weekly The Observer.

Salvador struggle 'entering decisive phase'

MADRID, March 18 (Agencies) — El Salvador's Civil War will heat up and "enter its decisive phase" in coming weeks, according to an interview with a Salvadoran opposition leader published here Thursday by the independent daily El Pais.

Salvador Samayoa, former education minister, said that there was no possibility of a ceasefire between leftist guerrilla forces and the army until the right wing government agreed to negotiate with the rebels. Samayoa spoke here as a member of a politico-diplomatic committee representing both guerrilla forces and the political opposition coalition.

He said the army faced a dilemma: To spread its troops or to concentrate them. If they spread out, they could be cut to pieces by guerrilla forces, but if they built up strong garrisons they would lose control of large areas which would be occupied by insurgent forces. Samayoa said that in recent weeks government troops had been deserting or surrendering in record numbers.

The former minister said he considered direct U.S. intervention in the Civil War "possible but not probable." Using a rule of thumb calling for five regular army soldiers to knock out one guerrilla, he said the

insurgents would have no chance of destroying the U.S. Army but could inflict heavy casualties and "hog down" U.S. forces if they were sent to El Salvador.

In San Salvador, a government commission presented President Alvaro Magana Thursday with a draft amnesty law giving leftist guerrillas who laid down their arms the choice of taking part in elections or leaving the country.

President Magana told Reuters that the political commission, charged with laying the ground work for elections next December, had been working on the project for several months. He said that under the draft law guerrillas who surrendered would be received by human rights workers in safe, neutral places such as churches.

"We hope the amnesty law succeeds because we want the participation of all political factions in our scheduled elections," he said.

Earlier this week, the guerrillas' broadcast station Radio Venceremos claimed they were winning El Salvador's four-year-long Civil War and described the government's plans for an amnesty as a farce. It said the elections and the amnesty were political, posturing by the government to divert atten-

tion from its military setbacks at the hands of the guerrillas.

President Magana said that there was as yet no mechanism to guarantee the security for guerrillas seeking amnesty but human rights workers could meet and process them. Diplomatic sources said the United States, El Salvador's chief armorer and financier, was expected to back the proposed amnesty.

U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Jeanne Kirkpatrick said last month that Washington would help to provide security guarantees for rebels seeking amnesty but President Magana said no such formal offer had been received.

Meanwhile, in Quito, the Latin American Human Rights Association (ALDHU) said that Mariela Garcia Villas, former chairman of the Salvadoran Human Rights Commission who reportedly died Monday during a clash between Salvadoran troops and guerrillas, had been "murdered" the previous day.

ALDHU, whose headquarters is in the Ecuadorian capital, said Mrs. Garcia Villas, 34, was killed Sunday by soldiers in the Salvadoran village of La Bermuda while she was trying to verify army use of chemical warfare against the civilian population.

BRIEFS

"mobilize the masses" to exterminate the rats. It added more Chinese should be encouraged to keep pet cats, banned as "bourgeois" in the Maoist Cultural Revolution of 1966-76, as a means of controlling vermin.

BANGKOK (AFP) — A Vietnamese Army defector stabbed himself in the stomach and 177 others launched a hunger strike in a refugee camp in Thailand after the United States rejected their pleas for resettlement, aid workers said Friday. The suicide attempt Wednesday was the fifth this month at a special section of Phanat Nikhom transit

center, 80 kilometers south of Bangkok.

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet Union left the World Psychiatric Association to protest the "unseemly political aims" of Western psychiatrists who charged dissidents are being abused in Soviet psychiatric hospitals, a newspaper said.

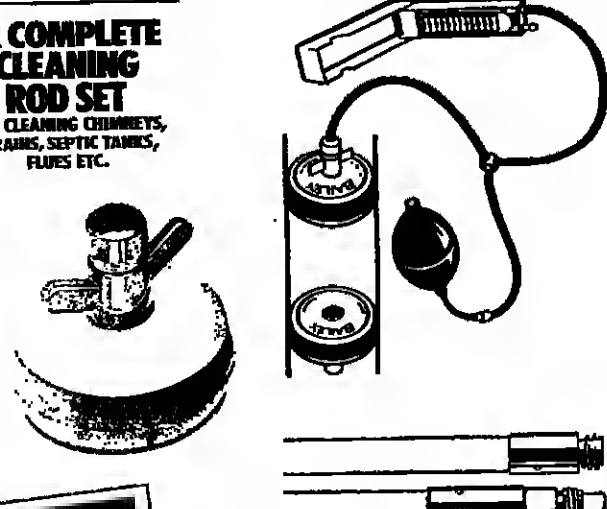
BASSETERRE, St. Kitts-Nevis (AP) — St. Kitts-Nevis, the last British associated free state in the Caribbean, will become independent Sept. 19, its premier announced. The official date was set Wednesday when Premier Kennedy Simmonds addressed the assembly.

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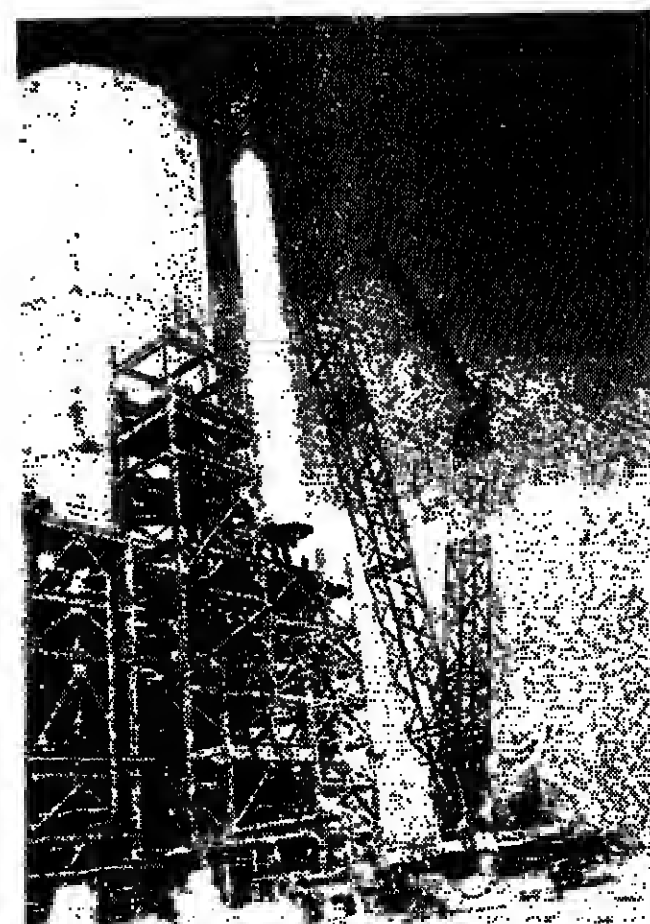
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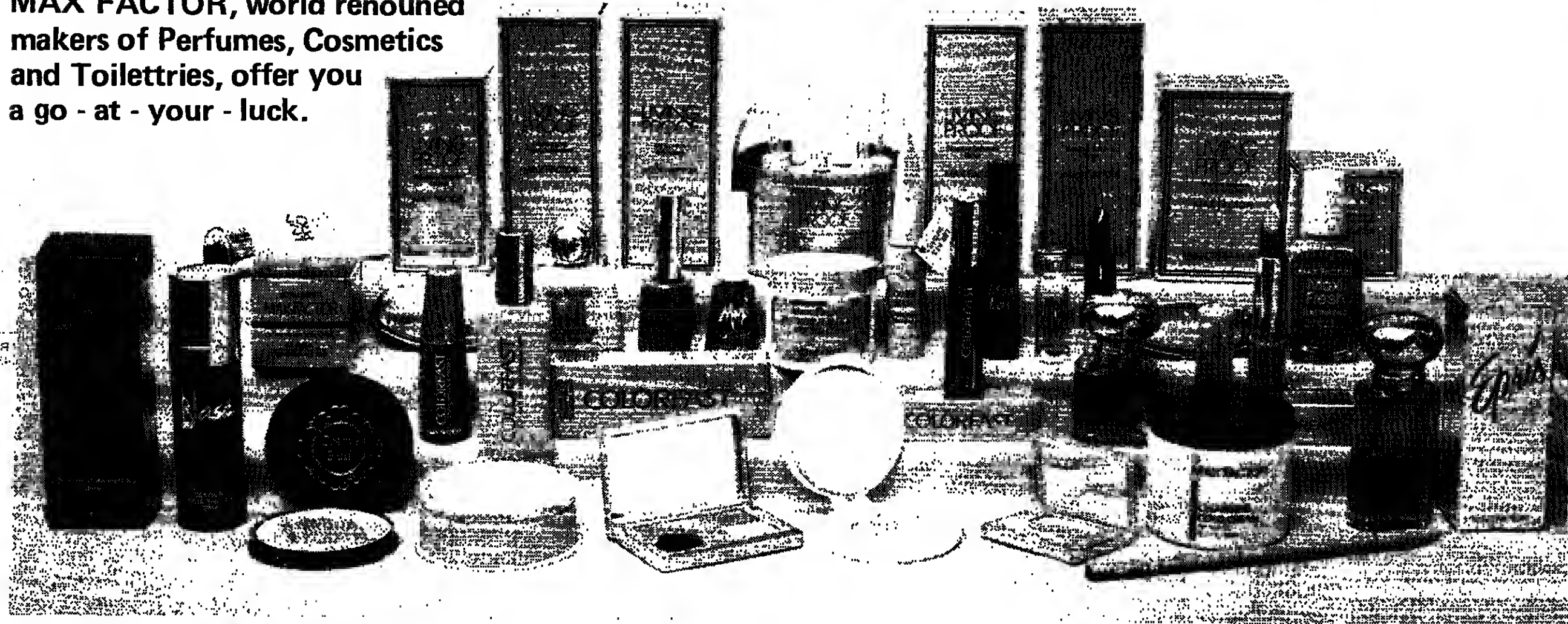
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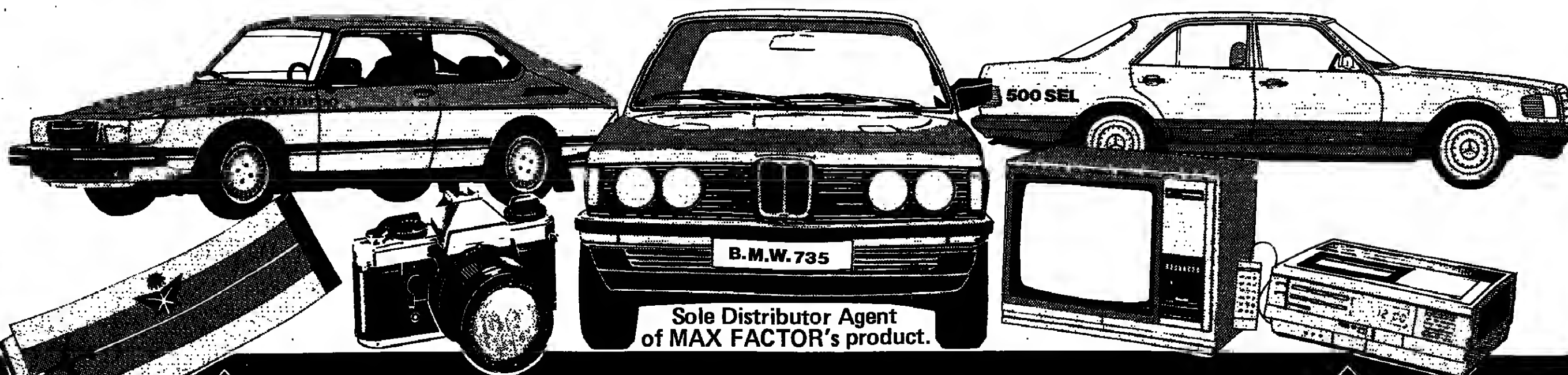


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In Boston tourney

Veteran Billie Jean cuts Jordan to size

BOSTON, Massachusetts, March 18 (AP) — Veteran Billie Jean King gave away 13 years but nothing else, Thursday night as she scored a 6-4, 6-3 victory over defending champion Kathy Jordan and advanced to the quarterfinals of the \$150,000 Virginia Slims tournament.

King, 39, the fifth seed, needed an hour and 24 minutes for her third straight career victory over Jordan, 23, and had high praise for her young victim after running off the last eight straight points to complete her victory. A crowd of 2,698 stunned King with prolonged applause both before and after her match.

"I've been coming here since I was 15 years old, and this crowd almost makes me nervous," she said. "I haven't had a crowd so biased in so long." King won an early series of service break, building a quick 4-2 lead in the first set. She broke Jordan in the third game of the second set and again in the ninth.

In the other evening match, local favorite Barbara Potter defeated Bonnie Gadusek 6-3, 6-4, for her second-round victory. Earlier in the day, the veteran Australian Wendy Turnbull, 30, gave a tennis lesson to American Ginny Purdy, 6-2, 6-2. "I play a lot of tough matches, so why shouldn't I have some easy ones once in a while?" Turnbull said after beating Purdy, 16.

Krishnan stretched
In the men's events, Ramesh Krishnan of India had to work hard to beat South African Freddie Sauer to reach the quarterfinals of the World Championship Tennis (WCT) Tournament in Munich Thursday.

Krishnan took the first set on a tiebreak, 7-6, and lost the second 4-6 before clinching victory 7-5 in the final set. Steve Denton gave Brian Teacher a fight in the first set but then could win only one more game as Teacher went through to the last eight, 6-7, 1-6, along with Shlomo Glickstein and Kevin Curren of South Africa, who both had close three-set wins.

Glickstein beat Tomas Smid of Czechoslovakia 4-6, 6-1, 6-4, while Curren wore down Hungary's Balasz Taroczy, 6-1, 2-6, 6-4.

Meanwhile, Gene Mayer of the U.S., and the No. 2 seed, set up a quarterfinal meeting with fellow-American Vince Van Patten in the Rotterdam Grand Prix Tournament when he beat Russell Simpson of New Zealand 6-0, 6-3. Van Patten beat another American, Tom Gullickson 6-4, 6-4, while in yet another all-American clash, Fritz Buehning beat Victor Amaya 5-7, 6-4, 6-4. Another American to make the grade was Hank Pfister, who beat Belgian Bernard Bolleau 7-5, 6-0.

In Naples, Florida, Australian Owen Davidson upset countryman Roy Emerson 6-1, 3-6, 7-5 in the quarterfinals of the \$35,000 Foster's Championships at the World Tennis Center.

Davidson advances to Saturday's semifinals, where he will play the winner of Friday's match between second-seeded Australian Ken Rosewall and American Frank Froehling. Rosewall was leading 5-0 when the match was suspended because of rain.

From Commonwealth Games

England faces expulsion

LONDON, March 18 (AFP) — England could face expulsion from the 1986 Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh following a decision made in London Thursday.

The Commonwealth Games Council for England said in an official statement that they could not accept, in its entirety, the code of conduct accepted at the general assembly of the Games Federation in Brisbane, Australia, last October.

The code states explicitly that no country should allow individuals or teams to compete against South Africans.

Arthur Gold, chairman of the Commonwealth Games Council for England, said: "We can only accept responsibility where we have authority, that is Commonwealth Games sports." He made it clear, however, that England could only implement the code when there is no clash with international federations.

"South Africa are still members of certain international federations, yachting, rowing and archery, and some of our members may have to compete against them in world championships," explained Gold.

Now the English body will inform the Commonwealth Games Federation of its decision and, as Gold says, "We shall await events." No doubt, the sports advisory committee of the Games Federation, who meet in London on April 12, will discuss the English decision at some length.

Tamara McKinney does U.S. proud

FURANO, Japan, March 18 (AFP) — Twenty-year-old Tamara McKinney became the first American winner of the Women's Alpine Skiing World Cup here Friday. McKinney, from Lexington, Kentucky, but now living in Squaw Valley, California, was placed only 12th in Friday's final giant slalom, which was won by Hanni Wenzel of Liechtenstein, but ensured overall World Cup victory as the only woman who could theoretically have overtaken her, Erika Hess of Switzerland, also failed to win the race.

Wenzel, the 1980 World Cup winner, secured her first victory of the season with an aggregate time of 2 min. 31.23 sec. for the two runs, including the best time of 1:13.52 on the first run.

France's Fabienne Serrat, who was fifth after the first run, clinched second place with the third best second run time of 1:17.73 for a

combined time of 2:33.18. Switzerland's Maria Walliser was third.

McKinney, who had been all out for her fourth consecutive giant slalom victory, was 12th with 2:34.98, but still ensured that she would end the European monopoly on the women's World Cup since Nancy Greene of Canada won the competition for the first two years of the series in 1967 and 1968.

Hess, the winner last year, saw her theoretical chance of overtaking McKinney disappear when she finished tenth. She had to win to keep alive her slim hopes of retaining the title.

McKinney thus brought the United States a remarkable double as Phil Mahre had also won the men's World Cup overall title. After the standings were announced, McKinney's jubilant team-mates carried her shoulder high near the finishing area.



De Castella ... main challenger

Cusma knocks the fight out of Gibilisco

CAPO D'ORLANDO, Sicily, March 18 (AP) — Lucio Cusma captured the European lightweight boxing title with an upset win over fellow-Italian Joe Gibilisco in this Sicilian resort Thursday night.

A battered, tired Gibilisco failed to answer the bell of the 12th and last round, giving up the Continental crown in his fourth and voluntary title defense. The unexpected defeat against Cusma also blew up Gibilisco's hopes for a World Boxing Association title fight against U.S. holder Ray "Boom Boom" Mancini which was being negotiated.

Cusma, 28, a former Italian champion, staged an all-out attack, smothering initiative from the European champion and keeping close to

GATESHEAD, England, March 18 (R) — A clash between the world's two fastest marathon runners, American Alberto Salazar and Australia's Rob de Castella, could prove the highlight of the World Cross-Country Championships here on Sunday.

Salazar, winner of the New York Marathon three times, is the star attraction in an exceptionally powerful U.S. team which also includes Craig Virgin, the first American to win the title. The 24-year-old Cuban-born Salazar finished second in last year's event in Rome to Ethiopia's Muhammad Kadir with an under-prepared de Castella well back in 10th place.

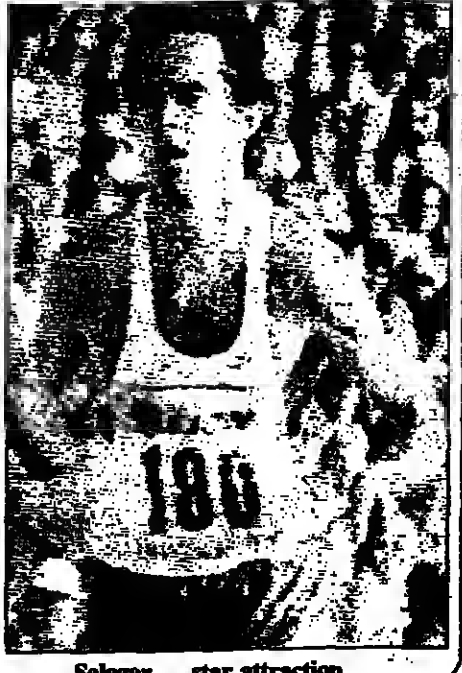
De Castella, a 25-year-old biophysicist nicknamed "Deek" by his countrymen, won the Commonwealth Marathon in Brisbane last October after a thrilling duel with Tanzania's Juma Ikangaa. The pair are to meet again in the Rotterdam Marathon on April 9 after previous plans for clashes in Australia and New Zealand fell through. In addition to Kadir and Virgin, winner of the title in 1980 and again the following year,

three other previous champions are expected to take part.

They are the 1976 winner Carlos Lopes of Portugal, 1977 champion Leon Schotts of Belgium and 1978-79 victor John Treacy of Ireland. Ethiopia, the team champions, include Olympic 5,000 and 10,000 meters champion Miruts Yifter and the gifted 20-year-old Bekale Debelu. Debelu finished 10th in the junior race last year but at that stage was so inexperienced he had to borrow some shoes to run.

The Ethiopians should find the hilly 12,000-meter course to their liking, if they can avoid the mistake which cost Kadir the title two years ago in Madrid. When the runners approached the bell for the last lap Kadir sprinted over the line and then slowed down in the mistaken belief the race was over.

Ethiopia must be favored to win the team championship again but they will face a strong challenge from the Americans, who are strong enough to have top marathoners Jeff Wells and Dick Beardsley languishing in the reserves.



Salazar ... star attraction

Bengt's brace baffles Bruins

NEW YORK, March 18 (AP) — Bengt Gustafsson's two goals supported the sharp goaltending of Pat Riggin as the Washington Capitals defeated Boston 2-1 Thursday night to sweep their National Hockey League season series with the Bruins.

In other NHL action, Mike Bossy scored three goals and Clark Gillies added two to lead the New York Islanders to an easy 9-5 victory over the New Jersey Devils.

Brian Propp and Ilkka Sinisalo fired in third-period goals to lead the Philadelphia Flyers to a 6-4 victory over the Montreal Canadiens.

Marcel Dionne scored two goals, including the game-winner with just 38 seconds remaining, to lead the Los Angeles Kings to a 4-3 victory over the Quebec Nordiques.

Meanwhile, the Netherlands trounced China 12-1 to top Group 'C' of the World Ice Hockey Championships in Budapest Thursday. The period scores in the runaway Dutch victory were 5-0, 4-1, 3-0.

In the other clash of the day, North Korea scored a narrow 5-4 victory over Bulgaria to move out of the bottom spot of the group. The Koreans without a win in the previous four games were the quicker of the two teams on view, and they held on to their slender advantage right through. The victory banished Spain back to the cellar.

In Anglet, France, Japan topped Group 'B' of the junior event by defeating Austria 6-3. The period scores were 3-2, 1-0, 2-1.

Juventus to take on the Poles

ZURICH, March 18 (R) — Juventus of Italy and West German soccer champions Hamburg stayed on a collision course which should lead to Athens when they were kept apart in the European Cup semifinal draw made here Friday.

Juventus, who beat English holders Aston Villa in the last round, were paired with Polish dark horses Widzew Lodz, quarterfinal conquerors of three-time winners Liverpool of England, and Hamburg were drawn against Real Sociedad of Spain. If the ties go according to form — and Widzew have already ripped that book apart — Juventus and Hamburg will meet in a "miniature" World Cup final in the Greek capital on May 25.

Six of Italy's World Cup heroes wear the famous black and white shirts of Juventus, while Hamburg had four representatives in the West German 22. Only fullback Manfred Kaltz and striker Horst Hrubesch actually played in the side which lost 3-1 to Italy in the final in Madrid and they will be itching to have another crack at Paolo Rossi and company in Athens. The two-leg semifinals in all three European competitions will be played on April 6 and 20.

The favorites in the other competitions, the Cupwinners' Cup and European Football Union (UEFA) Cup also avoided one another. In the Cupwinners', six-time European champion Real Madrid travel to meet Austria Vienna, while Scotland's Aberdeen entertain Belgium's Waterschei. Aberdeen, who beat Bayern Munich of West Germany in the last eight, and Real should qualify to meet in the final in Gothenburg on May 11.

The UEFA Cup final, which is played on a home-and-away basis, should be between once mighty Benfica of Portugal and experi-

enced Belgian club Anderlecht. Benfica, twice winners of the European Cup, meet Romania's Universitatea Craiova in Lisbon, while Anderlecht travel to Czechoslovakia to play Bohemians.

The Juventus-Widzew first-leg tie in Turin will overshadow the other five games. Widzew knocked Liverpool out 4-3 in highly impressive fashion and will be eager to show World Cup star Zbigniew Boniek the error of his ways. The explosive Boniek left the Poles for the Turin club in the summer.

Meanwhile, Everton midfielder Kevin Sheedy is the only uncapped player in Ireland's 23-man squad for the European Soccer Championship Group Seven match against Malta in Valletta on March 30.



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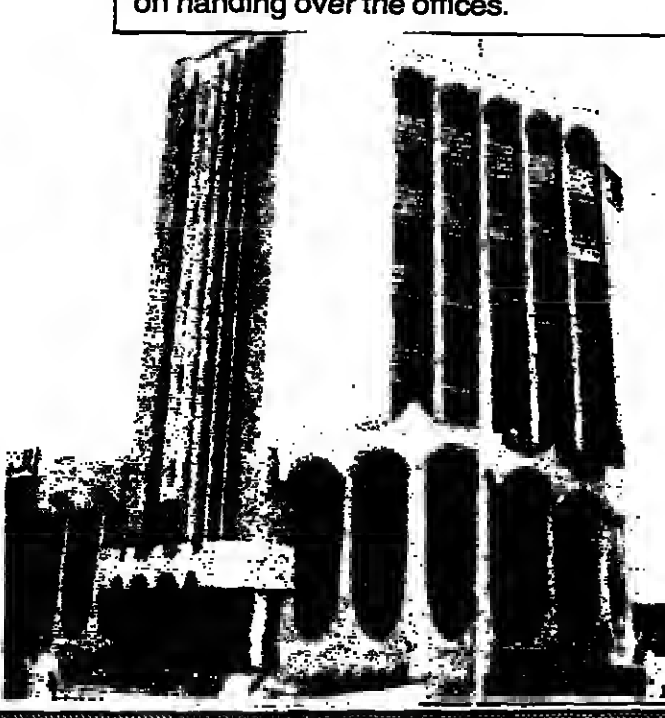
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سكنة من الاجل

To boost Mavericks' morale

Blackman strikes timely form

DALLAS, March 18 (AP) — For Rolando Blackman, it had not been the best of months. An ankle injury, followed by a bout with the flu, took him out of the Dallas Mavericks lineup. He lost his starting job to Kevin Ransley and he had trouble adjusting to his new role coming off the bench.

But Thursday night, the bad times seemed a long time ago. "This feels good. It's nice to go out and contribute," Blackman said after scoring 24 points to lead the Mavericks to a 120-105 victory over the Indiana Pacers.

With the listless Mavericks badly in need of a boost against one of the National Basketball Association's weaker teams, Blackman's adjustment couldn't have come at a better time.

Not only did he top all Dallas scorers, but his 11 rebounds tied center Pat Cummings for the team lead on a night when the Mavericks

enjoyed a rare advantage (57-39) on the boards and placed four players in double figures in rebounding. Mark Aguirre and Kurt Nimphius grabbed 10 rebounds apiece.

To cap the occasion, it was Blackman's three-point play with 5:37 left that ran a four-point lead to seven, a margin the Pacers over came close to fewer than four the rest of the way. With its victory, Dallas improved to 34-33 and moved to within three games of Denver for the sixth and final playoff spot in the Western Conference.

Indiana, which owns the worst record in the Eastern Conference, dropped to 17-49, despite a game-high 27 points from Billy Knight. The Pacers shot just 16 free throws, making seven, to the Mavericks' 30 of 41 from the line.

Dallas took the lead for good on a layup by Cory Thompson with 2:18 remaining in the

first half. The Mavericks moved in front by five, 56-51, at the half and were up by four, 86-82, after three periods.

Consecutive three-point plays by Blackman and Ransley opened a 105-95 advantage for Dallas with just over five minutes to go, and the Mavericks coasted in to win their third straight.

Spurs 111, Clippers 101: George Gervin scored 28 points and Gene Banks added 20 for the Spurs, who won their fourth straight while handing the Clippers their ninth loss in 10 games.

Johnny Moore's layup with 3:26 left in the third period broke a 76-76 tie and San Antonio was never caught. Terry Cummings had 23 points for San Diego, which played its sixth straight game without center Bill Walton.

Suns 125, Rockets 99: Maurice Lucas scored 11 of his 23 points in the third period as Phoenix sent Houston to its ninth loss in a row. It was the fifth straight victory over Houston for the Suns, who played the second half without starting center Alvan Adams, who strained ligaments in his right knee. The Rockets were whittled for six technical fouls: Two each for Elvin Hayes and coach Del Harris, both of whom were ejected.

Meanwhile, as Vicenza of Italy recovered from a first-half deficit to win the women's European Champions Basketball Cup in Mestre, Italy Thursday.

The Italians, trailing 39-41 at half time, beat West Germany's Ago 08 of Duesseldorf 76-67 in the final. Both teams were making their first appearance in a European final and were forced into a long wait when the final of the Roonchett Cup for women went into two periods of extra time. BSE Budapest finally grabbed the Cup with an 83-81 win over the pre-match favorites, Spartak Moscow.

In the champions' final, the Italians produced the better all-round play to neutralize another brilliant performance by Agon 08's Denise Curry, the captain of the U.S. Olympic team, who netted 26 points.

For AS Vicenza, Catarina Pollini, 17 Wednesday, celebrated with 18 points, Canadian all-rounder Beverly Smith scored 15 while Lidia Gorlin and Wanda Sandoo, the veteran duo from Torino's 1980 Cup-winning side, netted 14 and 10 respectively.

Agon 08 can take consolation from having knocked out former champions Daugava Riga of the Soviet Union, who have dominated the Cup for most of the last 20 years.

In the Ronchetti Cup final, the two teams locked 38-38 at half-time, were still level 70-70 at the end of regular time and 77-77 after the first period of extra play.

The Hungarian's top scorer Agnes Nementh, 1,999 meters, once again showed her class by netting 31 points and long-shooting international Andrea Sepsci added a handy 16. But it was Emilia Kosa, who scored the winning basket two minutes from time.

Spartak's international pivot Olga Soukhanova led the Soviet side's tally with 21 points.



PROUD WINNER: Kim Eeles, who won the men's title in the Al-Zamil-sponsored AGSRA Winter Closed Tournament in Dhahran recently, is seen receiving the trophy from the chief guest Zamil Al-Zamil.

Kim Eeles, Valerie are champions

By a Staff Writer

DHAHRAN, March 18 — Top-seeded Kim Eeles of the B.A. all Stars and No. 3 seed Valerie Burrows of the Gazelles lifted the men's and women's titles respectively in the Al-Zamil-sponsored Arabian Gulf Squash Rackets Association's (AGSRA) Winter Closed Championship recently.

Eeles, who was extended by a gritty Mario Joaquim (BAC I) before he etched his name on the trophy. In a fast-paced encounter Eeles exploited the corners effectively and played the boast to good effect to walk away with the first two games at 9-2, 9-3.

But Joaquim found his rhythm at this stage and matched Eeles shot for shot. In a protracted tussle for the third game, Joaquim put it across Eeles 9-5 to keep his flickering title hopes from being extinguished. But the third game seemed to have sapped all of Joaquim's reserves, as Eeles swept him off his feet in the fourth to crown himself with glory.

Earlier, Valerie Burrows played inspired squash to conquer top seed and Gazelle teammate Elenor Joaquim with a 3-1 decision. The game sea-sawed with fortunes changing hands often, but Burrows proved just a wee bit better in the crucial points.

In the plate finals, Peter Jones (Gomads), who was seeded sixth in the main competition and a surprise first round loser, also had a fight in his hands. He won a hard-fought 3-1 victory over Dhahran's Brian Mills before capturing the plate honors. The women's plate final was won by Gazelles' Roko Hargrove, who proved too strong for Hoopes' Sue Orchard. Hargrove won at 9-5, 10-9, 9-3.

Zamil Al-Zamil, Chairman of Abdulla H. Al-Zamil Group of Companies, presided at the prize-distribution ceremony and gave away the prizes to the winners. At the outset of the finals, AGSRA master of ceremonies, Ian Dobinson, welcomed the chief guest. Warris Mahmud, manager — Group Advertising Services, and Bob Hipwell manager — Fencing and Surfing Division, were also welcomed by Dobinson. A special mention was also made of the tournament organizer, Len Sykes, for his continued efforts in making the tournament a success.

Jahangir top-seeded

LONDON, March 18 (AFP) — Jahangir Khan has been top-seeded in the men's singles of the British Open Squash Championship to be held at Derby from April 4 to 14.

The seeding are: Men: 1. Jahangir Khan, 2. Hiddy Jahan, 3. Qamar Zaman (all Pakistan), 4. Dean Williams (Australia), 5. Gamal Awad (Egypt), 6. Maqsood Ahmed (Pakistan), 7. Ross Notman (New Zealand), 8. Gawain Briers (England).

Women: 1. Vicki Cardwell (Australia), 2. Lisa Opie (England), 3. Rhonda Thorne (Australia), 4. Martine Lemoignan, 5. Alison Cummings, 6. Angela Smith (all England), 7. Robyn Blackwood (New Zealand), 8. Barbara Diggins (England).

Arabian Homes Squash

Keen tussle in the offing

By a Staff Writer

JEDDAH, March 18 — The final push in the last stretch of the Arabian Homes Squash League's promotional race commenced with vigor. With only Alhild 'A', in the Cordoba Division, and Sangmed 'A', in the Seville Division, keeping a good distance from their rivals, a keen fight is in the offing in the other divisions as teams jockey for the top spots.

Last week, however, fancied teams kept up their winning streak to maintain their aspirations from being squashed. Especially in the

Results

ANDALUS DIVISION 'A'			
Stanskia S/A	2	Gray Mackenzie 'A'	3
Bedouins	1	Hochief 'A'	4
Rio/BRGM 'A'	4	Andalus Village	1
Arabian Homes 'A'	4	Murabustan 'A'	1
SEVILLE DIVISION 'B'			
KALA	0	Samba 'A'	5
Saudia 'A'	3	Binladin	2
Sogex 'B'	0	Sangmed 'A'	5
CORDOBA DIVISION 'B'			
Marbella	3	Sogex 'A'	2
Tarmac	1	Alhild 'A'	4
Sangmed 'B'	5	BTC	0
TOLEDO DIVISION 'C'			
Hochief 'C'	3	Rio/BRGM 'B'	2
Gray Mackenzie 'B'	2	Costain 'A'	3
Samba 'B'	4	Bell Canada 'B'	1
Arabian Homes 'C'	0	Toyota 'B'	5
CADIZ DIVISION 'C'			
Costain 'B'	1	Saudia Club	4
Whitney Murray	3	Malaga	2
IAL	1	Gray Mackenzie 'C'	4
Samba 'C'	1	Armasa	4
VALENCIA DIVISION 'C'			
Bell Canada 'A'	3	Murabustan 'B'	2
Toyota 'A'	4	AOPC	1
Liang Wimpey	0	Sierra	5
Alhild 'B'	4	Arabian Homes 'B'	1

New Orleans Open Three-way tie for top spot

NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana, March 18 (AP) — Blustery winds and tricky greens produced a three-way tie at 68 among Jay Haas, Mark Hayes and Curt Byrum in Thursday's opening round of the \$400,000 New Orleans Open Golf Tournament.

All three first-day leaders started after a steady morning drizzle stopped about 90 minutes into the tournament. However, northerly winds continued to gust at 10-14 miles (16-22 kms) an hour into the faces of golfers headed toward the clubhouse on the 7,080-yard Lakewood Country Club Course.

Tze-Chung Chen, a tour rookie from Taiwan, was in Thursday's first group and took the early lead with a 69. That stood up for a seven-way deadlock for second at the end of the first round. Also at 3-under were Bob Murphy, Jim Simons, Mark McNulty, Greg Powers, Doug Tewell and Bill Rogers.

Haas said he was playing with confidence Thursday for the first time this season — and all because he changed his grip on his golf club a week ago. Included in his string of three straight round-opening birdie putts was a 35-footer (10.6-meter) on the third hole. "Just routine," he joked.

He blew his chance at an undisputed lead

Dunes well placed in Jeddah Bridge

By a Staff Writer

JEDDAH, March 18 — Dunes seem well placed to lift the Jeddah Bridge League title. In the penultimate week's action, they scored an impressive 14-6 victory over Saudia Greco and continue to top the standings with 18 points.

But with last year's champions Pakind White and SSS having a game in hand, things are not all that rosy for the leaders. With the remaining fixtures including three matches among the four top teams, next week promises some exciting play.

The week saw, to surprise results, as last week's bottom of the table team Marabella beat Gray Mackenzie 17-3 and Oldies earring

by missing a 6-foot (1.8 meter) putt and taking a bogey at 18. "That pin is really tough," he said. "It's on a nob there, and it's really hard to get a line on it."

Hayes didn't have that problem. He birdied 18 from 15 feet (4.5 meters) — one of four birdies for his round. "I didn't take advantage of some opportunities," he said. "I think I made one good putt — that 15-footer (4.5 meter) on the last hole. I must have left five or six — seven — putts dead in the hole."

The greens were large, but tricky, Hayes said. Meanwhile Australia's Jane Lock shot a four-under-par 69 Thursday to emerge as the early clubhouse leader in the first day of the LPGA's \$200,000 Women's Kemper Open at the Royal Kaanapali North Course on the island of Maui.

One shot back of Lock in the clubhouse was Japan's Yuko Moriguchi, at 70. Many of the tour's top players, including defending champion Amy Alcott, were just starting play on the par-73, 6,182-yard course Thursday afternoon.

High winds and rain, which had plagued the course during practice rounds, disappeared Thursday as 105 professionals and two amateurs teed off under sunny skies.

a walkover against GP4. Vikings had a fine week winning both their fixtures. They beat KALA 15-5 and then went on to put it across Gray Mackenzie 12-8. Saudia Blues suffered mixfortunes. They beat Pakind Green 12-8 but lost to SSS 6-14.

STANDINGS:									
	P	W	D	L	VPs	Pts			
Dunes	10	9	—	1	147	18			
SSS	9	7	1	1	114	15			
Pakind W	9	7	—	2	115	14			
Pakind G	10	7	—	3	120	14			
Saudia B	10	6	1	3	126	13			
Saudia G	10	5	—	5	94	10			
Vikings	9	4	1	4	87	9			
Oldies	10	3	—	7	94	6			
Gray Mac	10	3	—	7	79	6			
KALA	10	2	1	7	64	5			
Marbella	10	2	—	8	61	4			
GP4	9	1	—	8	62	2			

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AFRICAN WAR AVERTED

At long last Liberian President Samuel Doe has agreed to withdraw his army from the borders with Sierra Leone and normalize relations with that country after nearly one month of tension caused by a false newspaper story.

How much has the story cost the two countries will never be known precisely because the Liberian government will be reluctant to reveal the price it had to pay for its unjustifiable reaction.

The whole sad episode started when *Progress*, a weekly published in neighboring Sierra Leone, alleged that Doe had been seen shooting his wife when driving her through Monrovia. Since the wife was abroad at the time of the shooting allegation, the story gained immediate currency and was used by international news agencies and, of course almost every newspaper in Africa and many abroad, including this one.

Doe was not amused. He asked his wife to hasten back and organized a massive reception for her on arrival, at public expense certainly, and demanded a public apology from Sierra Leone's President Siaka Stevens who would not abide. The newspaper reporter who originated the story as well as the editor were imprisoned briefly to placate the raging Doe.

There was a real chance of war between two impoverished states and it took top level African mediation to defuse the situation a little bit. But even then Doe would not withdraw his army from the border areas and would not allow the people of both countries to resume normal links, traffic and trade.

Finally came the nonalignment summit in New Delhi which included scores of African leaders who tackled the issue through hours of intensive talks until Doe acceded to the request provided Sierra Leone promises to behave itself in the future.

We hope so too, for the sake of the hapless people on both sides of the border.

Saudi Arabian press review

The American responsibility in ensuring Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon was one of the topics of comment in the press Friday.

In an editorial entitled "American credibility and the Lebanese problem," *Okaz* said a real shift of position did not lay in mere statements but in the adoption of positive attitudes reflected in solving problems. "It is this that will help the U.S. recover its political credibility to the Arab region," it added. It said the American administration was well aware of Zionist expansionist aims and that the Arab nation could no longer withstand further loss of time. The paper said the present juncture was the best time to work seriously for the realization of a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

Al-Madinah commented that the PLO had "pulled the rug under the feet of the Israeli negotiator by declaring its readiness to withdraw its forces from north Lebanon."

"This deprived the enemy of pretexts to which it adheres to prolong its stay in Lebanon and bring the Beirut government to the point of despair and thus make concessions detrimental to national sovereignty," it said. "The PLO's condition on ensuring protection for Palestinians is both logical and understandable, especially following the terrible massacre of Palestinian refugees in the

Sabra and Shatila camps in Beirut," the paper added.

It warned of "Zionist enemy designs," saying should the enemy fail in its plans to isolate Lebanon from the Arab countries, it would not hesitate to "create another crisis on the questions of refugees and engulf Lebanon in a new civil war or even drag the region to another total conflagration."

Al-Jazirah noted that the talks would coincide with the opening in Tokyo of an international people's court trying Israel. It said the link between what was happening in London, talks between the seven-member committee led by Jordan's King Hussein and Britain, and what was taking place simultaneously in Tokyo was very clear.

The paper said that in Tokyo, Israel was being tried for its "aggressive behavior and criminal practices against the Arab people."

Al-Riyadh said the Arab committee had already said much in world capitals on the Arab peace plan and would say a little of what had been recorded in British diplomatic files on Israel's "aggressive existence." It wondered whether London and some other capitals would at least out of courtesy declare that Lebanon, the Golan Heights and Jerusalem were Arab. (SPA)



Gandhi puts new imprint on nonaligned movement

By Bernard Melusky

NEW DELHI —

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has put a firm new imprint on the nonaligned movement, but Indian commentators now want her to focus urgently on vital domestic issues.

Mrs. Gandhi displayed poise and a comprehensive grasp of complex international problems when she chaired the nonaligned summit to a successful conclusion here last week. She intervened personally to patch up a potentially serious quarrel between Iran and Iraq over the wording of a summit declaration on their Gulf war and she summed up the 101-member movement's policies with passionate eloquence.

Her pedigree for heading the movement is impeccable as the daughter of Jawaharlal Nehru, one of its founding fathers. In public and private, other nonaligned leaders appeared convinced that as its chairman, she would command respect and provide dynamic leadership. Mrs. Gandhi's embattled situation at home seemed a distant memory as she spoke for the Third World in condemning the

nuclear arms race and seeking a better economic deal for poor countries.

India's enhanced international reputation as a result of hosting the summit has been a source of national pride and a great deal of the credit went to the indefatigable prime minister. But her domestic problems, lurking in the background for the two weeks of the conference, have refused to disappear. In the northeastern state of Assam, the situation remains tense after ethnic violence surrounding state elections last month when at least 2,700 persons were killed and more than 300,000 lost their homes.

Mrs. Gandhi's Congress (I) Party who power in Assam, but militant Assamese groups boycotted the elections and the non-Communist political parties are calling for the state assembly to be dissolved. Opposition to the poll, called by Mrs. Gandhi after a year of direct central government rule, stemmed from claims by the militants that the electoral rolls included illegal immigrants. They have been campaigning for years for the eviction of immigrants, called aliens mainly from the former East Pakistan, now Bangladesh.

Mrs. Gandhi is also facing the continuing agitation in the northern farming state of Punjab, where militant Sikhs are demanding religious and political concessions. The prime minister agreed before the start of the nonaligned summit to meet some of the religious demands, including allowing Sikhs to carry symbolic daggers on Indian domestic flights. But there has been no agreement on the political demands, which include greater autonomy for Punjab and the inclusion of other Punjabi-speaking areas into the state.

The *Times of India* newspaper said in an editorial that as nonaligned chairman Mrs. Gandhi would have to devote some of her time to the movement in general and to follow-up action on the summit's decisions in particular.

"But her first, indeed overriding, priority must be to come to grips with some of the extremely urgent problems at home which have perhaps inevitably been neglected during the period when ... the summit went on practically round-the-clock," it said.

But Mrs. Gandhi clearly feels urgent domestic issues were not neglected during the meeting.

Replying to a questioner at a post-summit press conference who asked whether she had had time to attend the matters of state, she said: "There is not a single paper outstanding." But *The Times of India*, pressing its point, said: "It must be said that any further delay in dealing with the almost literally burning problems of Assam as well as the explosive situation in Punjab will be fraught with the gravest danger."

In Punjab, militant Sikh leader Harchand Singh Longowal said he was planning to enlist more volunteers by mid-April for a series of peaceful protests. He told the people of the state to be ready for a decisive long-term struggle to win their demands.

The *Economic Times*, noting India's highly efficient organization of the nonaligned conference, wondered how the authorities could explain away delays in implementing projects inside India. "It looks that Mrs. Gandhi had told her key organizers that she would not take any excuses for organizational failures," the newspaper said. "One hopes that the prime minister would adopt the same technique on the domestic scene too." (R)

SDP alliance has edge in crucial Darlington poll

By Alexander Mazy

DARLINGTON —

Britain's political leaders are descending on this small northern town for an event that could determine prospects for the next general election.

Cabinet ministers, opposition leaders and past or prospective prime ministers are all journeying from London to campaign in a parliamentary by-election which ordinarily might excite little passion. But on the result of the March 24 ballot, necessitated by the death of member of parliament Ted Fletcher, may hang the date Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher chooses to seek re-election, the future of Michael Foot as opposition Labor Party leader and the fate of the new centrist alliance of the Liberal Party and the new Social Democratic Party (SDP).

The alliance scored a stunning by-election upset last month by seizing from Labor the London dockland seat of Bermondsey.

It hopes now to confirm its rise — checked last year by the patriotic fervor over the Falklands War — by taking Darlington, a marginal seat held by Labor. Polls and local opinion say it can be done.

Brazil's liberties laced with contradictions

By Bryna Brennan

BRASILIA —

After almost a decade of strict repression, the military-backed government of Brazil has restored most freedoms, moving the country ahead in industry and vowing a return to civilian rule. But even today, the liberties are laced with contradictions.

March 31 marks 19 years since the military staged a U.S.-supported coup, ousting the democratically elected but left-leaning government of Joao Goulart. With promises to save the country from communism, end corruption and restore economic order, the military leaders received widespread public backing.

Elections last November — for governors, members of Congress and state legislatures, and municipal officials — were the most wide-ranging since the takeover. The Communist Party is illegal in Brazil but operates openly. Police make sporadic raids on Communist publications, and last December the Sao Paulo authorities arrested more than 50 Communists attending a party meeting. The move surprised even many government officials.

"That was to show the hard-liners in the military

with possibly profound repercussions for the two major parties.

"Why is half the cabinet coming here?" a local Conservative asks, providing his own answer: "Because it matters a damn lot, that's why." Mrs. Thatcher must call the general election by May 1984, when her five-year term expires but, with the Conservatives now riding high in opinion polls, she is widely expected to call a vote this October.

An alliance victory in Darlington could persuade her to postpone the election until next year. It would also be another major setback for Labor and would reopen the question of Foot's leadership in a party riven by left-right divisions.

Mrs. Thatcher has dispatched seven ministers, about one-third of her cabinet, to canvass in Darlington. James Callaghan, the last Labor prime minister, calls Oswald O'Brien, his party's centrist candidate, "my kind of candidate," and is paying two visits. O'Brien, 54, a college professor, has shunned the support of Labor's far left.

Social Democratic leader Roy Jenkins and the three other ex-Labor cabinet ministers who founded the party, Shirley Williams, David Owen

and William Rodgers, have all made repeated trips to the town.

None of the parties could have picked a trickier place than Darlington upon which to pin any hopes. Isolated from the heavy industrial areas of northeast England by encircling farmland, it has an air of aloofness. Most of the candidates agree its 68,000 voters are inscrutable. Labor's Ted Fletcher, who held the seat with a margin of 1,052 votes at the 1979 general election, was the town's member of parliament for 19 years until his death last month. But for 13 years before that, Darlington voted Conservative.

Four out of five of its biggest employers are in heavy engineering, aptly for a town usually described as Britain's "birthplace of the railways," where the first steam-powered train ran from nearby Stockton to Darlington in 1825.

But Darlington is also still a market town, a place of sedate Victorian Gothic architecture where cattle are sold beneath the town clock at the twice-weekly auction. Unemployment has not ravaged Darlington as harshly as it has the rest of the north-east but the issue dominates the election.

Letters to the Editor

that there could be crackdowns and there was control," said a political science professor at the University of Brasilia who asked not to be identified because of the sensitivity of the subject. Not all of the segments of the military agree with the political liberalization. In 1980 and 1981, there was a rash of suspected right-wing bombings. The investigations fizzled out.

Unlike most of its neighbors, Brazil has no problem with guerrillas. The generals installed into the presidency since the coup have rid the country of its leftist threat. In search-and-destroy missions, the military gunned down, murdered and tortured an unknown number of guerrillas in the Amazon in the early 1970s. Death squads in the cities performed similar tasks until about 1976.

The tales of brutal repression in the late 1960s and early 1970s have given way to charges of police abuse, especially against the urban poor. Newspapers carry almost daily accounts of people being shot and killed by the authorities. Until the mid-1970s, such stories would have been banned by military censors. Journalists today, however, acknowledge that self-censorship is practiced. During the past

year, several journalists have been arrested and charged under the vaguely worded national security law for writing articles deemed to be against the government.

The press freedom enabled newspapers to print stories recently about alleged government corruption, which is said to be widespread. In one case, stories alleged that the national intelligence service was involved in the murder of a journalist. Another story accused the same organization of being behind a scam to skim money from a government project.

The intelligence service denies any wrongdoing in either case. The journalist who wrote the scam story, however, was taken to court. The case is still pending.

Movies still pass through a censorship council. The controversial film *Pra Frente Brasil*, which depicts scenes of torture during the repressive years, was released almost a year after it was first banned.

The military leaders have pushed this country of 125 million people far ahead technologically, turning a mainly agricultural economy into a semi-industrialized one. The price tag has been inflation, which was 81 percent when the military took over and now is more than 100 percent. The foreign debt is the highest in the Third World, with the government putting the figure at just under \$90 billion.

On the other side, the moves toward civilian rule have led to some interesting twists. President Joao Figueiredo in 1979 granted political amnesty to thousands of government opponents who had been forced to flee the country or were jailed after the coup.

The amnesty and the elections mean that former army chiefs and former exiles are doing battle on the congressional floor. The divided four-party opposition holds a majority of seats in the newly elected congress.

Before the concerted efforts toward civilian rule, Congress was closed twice by the executive branch. Figueiredo has called for a political truce and said he wants the country's problems to be resolved through dialogue. The opposition rejects a truce unless the government agrees to direct elections, a move that Figueiredo has said is out of the question.

The government party holds a majority in the electoral college that will name the next president for a six-year term in 1985. There are signs, however, that the military is easing its reins. Naval Minister Maximiano da Fonseca was quoted as saying that the soldiers "are returning to their barracks."

And the naval minister said the president would choose the party's candidate for the next president. "The military is out of this," he said. (AP)

TODAY'S HISTORY

Today is Saturday, March 19, the 78th day of 1983. There are 287 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

1711 — War is proclaimed between Russia and Turkey.

1796 — Freedom of the press is established in France.

1799 — Napoleon Bonaparte begins siege of Acre which is defended by Turks.

1808 — Spain's King Charles IV abdicates.

1861 — Maori war in New Zealand ends.

1938 — Mexico expropriates British and U.S. oil properties.

1947 — Chinese Nationalists capture Communist capital of Yenan.

1962 — Relative calm returns to Algeria after ceasefire, ending seven years of warfare between Algerian nationalists and French.

1969 — British troops land without resistance on rebellious Caribbean island of Anguilla.

1971 — At least 160 persons are killed in landslides north of Sao Paulo, Brazil.

1977 — Congo's President Marien Ngouabi is assassinated at his official residence in Brazzaville.

1981 — Dress rehearsal for U.S. space shuttle *Columbia* is marred when one worker is killed, another mortally hurt, and four others almost asphyxiated when they enter compartment filled with nitrogen.

Thought for today:
Woe unto them that are tired of everything, for everything will certainly be tired of them — G.K. Chesterton, English writer (1874-1936).

سكينة الناصري

Arab heritage - 7

The Turkish coffee legend synonymous with Mocha history

By Peter Boxhall
Special to Arab News

The story of Arabian coffee, known also as Turkish coffee in the regions of the former Ottoman Empire, is virtually synonymous with the history of the small, south-western port of Mocha.

If coffee had not been introduced to this obscure fishing hamlet of a few huts with conical roofs of date fronds in the 15th century A.D., my readers in Saudi Arabia, and I in Turkey, might never have had the opportunity of drinking this soothing, delightful beverage, nor of thanking Shaikh Shadili, who brought coffee from Abyssinia to Arabia, and whose mosque still stands proudly today in Mocha, to the extent that: "...the people (of Mocha) swear by him, and thank Heaven every morning on his account for having taught mankind the use of this delightful beverage, the healing virtues of which have long been reckoned as efficacious as his prayers; they implore the Divine favor on his descendants, who are held in great honor, and enjoy the title of sheikh".

The origin of the word "coffee" is popularly thought to be derived from Kaffa, the name of a town in Abyssinia. Nevertheless, except for the trademark that is often given to other brands of coffee today, little is now known about the port in the Yemen Arab Republic, once so important and proud, that bears the name of Mocha.

Coffee itself was never grown in Mocha. The plant, introduced by Shaikh Shadili in the 15th century, propagated better in the more advantageous terrain and climatic conditions of the terraced, lower reaches of the Yemeni highlands, adjoining Bait Al Faqih, Sana'a and Lobaiya. Mocha, however, was from the start the main port from which the sought-after commodity was dispatched.

By 1600 (A.D.) Mocha had become comparatively prosperous and well populated, although not yet as a result of the fierce competition that was later to ensue between the East India companies and the Arabian, Egyptian and Indian traders. Indeed, few Europeans were yet to be seen in this teeming entrepot, and those who were found conditions harsh: "...a hell of heat and humid air, of infected drinking water and without a breath of wind".

By 1660, however, Mocha coffee had come to be included in the sales lists of the English East India Company, and thereafter rivalry for it among the French, Dutch, Portuguese and English reflecting the larger battle for commercial supremacy in the Indian Ocean, became intense. In 1708, after successfully petitioning the Imam of Yemen, the Dutch opened a factory at Mocha and were given the right to export 600 bales of coffee a year free of customs duty. In 1708/9 a French factory was also established and, soon thereafter, the Portuguese and English followed suit.

Between about 1720 and 1740, European trade in Mocha coffee reached record proportions, and it is from this time (1733) that we have one of the first reports, by an English coffee agent of the East India Company, of the prevailing conditions. Alighting from his ship, the agent immediately became aware of the commercial competition which lay ahead, for nearby were moored a Dutch ship from Batavia, the *Pomellerry* a French ship from the port of that name, a Moor's 'grab' (a square-rigged, two-mast vessel with projecting stern and no bowsprit), from Surat and the *Nagdy Samy* an Indian ship, under Portuguese flag, from Diu. Thereafter, Dickinson makes a courtesy call on Faqi Abdullah, the deputy and son of the governor of Mocha, and visits the company's factory.

We found in the factory six hundred and sixty bales of Beetlefuckee (Bait Al Faqih) coffee being part of a thousand thirty eight bales purchased there before our arrival by our Banias (Indians), on account of our Honorable Masters who had remitted sixty thousand Spanish dollars to carry on the investment. The price of coffee at Beetlefuckee by the last prices was at a hundred twenty six to one hundred thirty Spanish dollars, the Bahar (about 450 pounds).

Between March and July, in those active years, large caravans of coffee-bearing camels descended from the highlands interior to deposit the requirements of the waiting ships, which were now able to anchor safely within a lagoon, at the extremities of which there were two armed forts: Qala' Tayyar to the north, named after a Muslim holy man who had followed Shaikh Shadili to Mocha, and whose death on Oct. 9 is still commemorated, and Qala' Abdurrah to the south, named after Shaikh Shadili's son.

And obviously, Mocha had now taken on a more agreeable appearance than was accorded it by the first European traders for, according to one contemporaneous account: Viewed from a distance, the houses (of Mocha) seem lofty, and have a square, solid appearance, which gives them the semblance of being excavated from a quarry of marble. Over the tabular line of flat roofs, the minarets of three mosques rise to a considerable height, with several circular domes of kuhbets or chapels. The roadstead is almost open being only protected by two narrow tongues of land on one of which is a ruined castle, and on the other an insignificant fort. A grove of date-trees adjoins the city, and extends nearly two miles along the southern beach.

The wall, by which Mocha is completely surrounded, is not more than 16 feet high toward the sea, though on the landward side it may in some places be double that height. The two forts that guard the harbor stand about 1 1/2 miles asunder.

The houses of the lower class are circular butts composed of wickerwork, covered inside with mats, and sometimes on the outside with a little clay. The roofs are uniformly thatched; and in front each has a small area or yard fenced off. All the public buildings face the sea, and consist chiefly of public edifices.

spears, and matchlocks, and here and there the half-worn shield of other days. Besides, there are the caravanserais and coffee houses, with groups of townsmen and traders reclining on couches of the date-leaf, smoking their small hookahs, sipping their kischer, and perpetually stroking their beards.

Later, when Mocha had reached the peak of its prosperity, although the production of coffee was now actually beginning to decline, we learn that the traders, having disembarked at the quayside, walked past the Amir Al Bahra (Port Officer's) house and to the coffee bazaar of the town, which was composed of "two great courts with covered galleries." It was from here, after protracted bargaining, and after the quantity and price of the coffee had been agreed to, that the coffee was taken to the customs house, near the sea gate, and garbled - cleared of pebbles and chaff by sieving - before being repacked into sacks and loaded onto the ships.

Now, at the zenith of Mocha's often fluctuating fortunes, the enclosing wall still stood. There were five gateways: the Bab Sahil (the Sea Gate); the Bab Saghir (the Small Gate); the Bab Al Amudy and the Bab Sandal, named after two holy men; and Bab Shadili, all of which were defended by bastions on which 12 or 14 cannons were mounted. With the walls about 10,000 inhabitants went about their daily routine, going to and from the European factories, seeking an audience at the governor's house, where 600 soldiers paraded every day between noon and 2 p.m. and from where the governor set out on Fridays with an escort of 200 horsemen to pray at Shadili's mosque, or shopping in the main street where, in two-meter square shops general traders, carpenters, clothiers, sandal makers, armorers, silver, copper and blacksmiths plied their trade.

Then, inevitably, because a better quality coffee had been discovered in Java, and partly because the European coffee traders were becoming increasingly disillusioned with what they considered to be extortionate taxes levied on their purchases by successive governors of Mocha, the wealth and fame of Mocha went into an irreversible decline.

At the end of the 19th century, the decaying, demoralized coffee port was further afflicted by an earthquake, and by cholera epidemics. Its population decreased to 5,000, of whom only 500 lived within the walls, and the once prosperous coffee merchants' houses were now "like skeletons, revealing their emptiness and their great rooms, once ornamented with rich lattice work, are left gaping, open to the sky..."

The Mocha of today, which I know well, has indeed a haunting, sad appearance. The low-lying peninsular arm to the south of the town is submerged, and there is nothing to be seen of the Qala' Abdurrah Fort. The drawbridge by which entry to the town was made from the sea is gone. The palm trees are few in number; indeed there are scarcely a dozen in the vicinity to bear witness to the three million that once existed. Torrential rain, some fifty years ago, had swept the others away, and many of the public buildings and traders' houses too.

Yet outside the town, amongst the ruins in the mounds of sand, the well-defined, well preserved mosque of Shaikh Shadili, proud in its isolation and enduring veneration, continues to be in daily use. (So too, within the town, are fourteen other mosques).

And I like to think that when the 'Amil, the majlis and the few remaining inhabitants make their way out there to pray, they spare a thought for Shaikh Shadili, the founder of Mocha, this once famous Arabian coffee port.



HIGHLANDS: Coffee plantations in the foothills of the Yemeni highlands. Unfortunately very little coffee is now grown in the Yemen Arab Republic.

Scramble for choice spots

Singapore plans mass rapid transit

By Joe Fernandez

SINGAPORE (Depthnews) — This tiny island state is opting for a future track to make some sense out of its worsening traffic congestion and public transportation.

As Singapore prepares itself for the 21st century — when more vehicles and people are expected to take to now congested streets — plans are being finalized for the construction of a mass rapid transit (MRT).

Already, it has fueled fears among some 120,000 Singaporeans who have applied for government-built high-rise apartments. But the real estate industry is scrambling for choice spots near the MRT line, while other critics continue to debate the wisdom of a new transportation system over traditional ones which are much cheaper.

Potential high-rise dwellers say the transportation project will siphon off badly needed materials and labor, thus slowing the housing program. But government officials insist the MRT is relatively capital-intensive and would largely rely on imported skilled labor. Officials say the housing program would be under implementation by the time construction on the MRT begins.

Current plans call for construction of the \$2.5 billion MRT to begin by 1984-85, at the very latest. Officials believe that, with the early construction, contracts can be awarded at relatively competitive costs because work-starved contractors are willing to accept lower profit margins during the present global recession. Early construction could also help avoid serious road congestions later.

According to Mass Rapid Transport Authority sources, skilled foreign workers and contractors, especially Korean and Japanese, will be used because much of the construction technique is not available locally. Already, the Koreans and Japanese have industriously snared large chunks of several other Singapore projects like Raffles City, Changi Airport, and the East Coast Parkway Land Reclamation.

Not surprisingly, 18 worried local contractors recently established Core Star Ltd., with \$1 million in paid-up capital. The company will coordinate each contractor's activities, share expertise, and compete for big tunneling jobs. Others are urging the government to ensure joint venture between local and foreign builders, seen as mandatory to facilitate technology transfer.

Meanwhile, since the government's decision on the MRT, it is reported that developers have begun scrambling for sites near

MRT lines and stations. Land prices are expected to increase for property with easy access to MRT lines.

Overall, Singapore appears cautious against repeating Hong Kong's mistakes in 1976-77 when rapid construction of the underground railway largely overheated the construction industry and economy. Nevertheless, the Real Estate Developers Association welcomes the project since it would help stimulate real estate development out of the doldrums.

Undoubtedly, there are parallels between Singapore's MRT and Hong Kong's Mass Transit Railways since both have densely populated small islands as their theater of operation. But thereafter the differences begin.

For example, like everything else, Hong Kong's transport policy is dictated by market forces with little coordination among competing modes of transport. Faced with unequal competition from buses, ferries and cars, Hong Kong's Mass Transit Railways is yet to develop its full potential. In Singapore, however, indications are that a well-coordinated and integrated transport master plan will be formulated, as both the "Singapore Bus Services" and the MRT Authority are state-owned. Hence, the ultimate outcome would be the optimum use of transport capacity, reliable and comfortable service for commuters and a satisfactory return in government investment.

Evidently, the MRT's \$2.5 billion price-tag exceeds one-third of the island's hard-earned foreign exchange reserves slightly. In addition, the Singapore government spent approximately \$5 million over a 15-year period on several MRT and transport studies.

The government will shoulder the entire cost of the MRT's construction. Indeed, the

finances could easily be provided by the sale of Marina South, 255 hectares of prime reclaimed land near the city center. At a minimum of \$7,000 per square meter, Marina South would net \$19 billion, more than enough for the one-time cost of building and equipping the system.

It is reckoned that since the MRT will relieve traffic congestion, it will help Marina South realize its full potential and enhance the land premium.

Since 1976, the government has engaged several transportation consultants separately to study the MRT's implications. Hitherto, the government has held back, partly because one study advised that an improved all-bus network could cope with projected increases in passenger traffic for an indefinite period. The implication was that the government had a breathing spell to further study the problem and its ramifications on the economy.

However, the latest Comprehensive Traffic Study concludes that an all-bus network would encounter serious problems well before 1990. A major reason: its proponents erroneously assume ideal road travel speeds and boarding times. Moreover, the better educated and affluent Singaporeans of tomorrow would expect more reliable, efficient and comfortable transportation services that can be provided by an all-bus network.

Overall, the all-bus network appears an uninspiring option for many Singaporean leaders raised on the island's "progressive, innovative, and hard-headed problem-solving" tradition.

However, the consensus of opinion in the government previously held that all cheaper options must be exhausted before embarking on the relatively expensive, MRT, an investment which overshadows all others as the republic prepares itself for the 21st century.

Bureaucrats sabotaging Soviet efficiency drive

By Mark Frankland

MOSCOW (LOS) — A major Soviet experiment to increase labor productivity and reduce overmanning in factories has run into serious difficulties to the public dismay of its champions.

The Soviet Union's economic priority at the moment is to increase efficiency of production to offset an acute shortage of labor and rapidly rising raw material costs. The way in which an experiment directly targeted against one of those problems has almost run into the ground is an example of the difficulties that await partial attempts to reform the Soviet economic system.

Nearly 16 years ago a chemicals complex at Shchekino in the Tula region south of Moscow started to experiment with a system that was supposed to rid it of excessive labor. The idea was that if fewer workers could achieve the same of greater production, they would be rewarded with part of the wages that had been saved.

The experiment worked. The chemicals plant has trimmed its workforce by 2,000 since 1967 — from 7,000 to 5,000. Labor productivity has risen four times, output three times and labor discipline, according to the plant's own workers, has also greatly improved.

If these results are so satisfactory why hasn't the experiment been more widely copied? Countrywide application of the Shchekino method has apparently released only a million workers for redeployment. This is less than 3 percent of all workers engaged in industrial production.

Only 4,000 of the country's industrial associations and enterprises have gone over to the Shchekino method and many of them, according to the Moscow press, in only a halfhearted way. A major difficulty has been the reluctance of industrial managers to get rid of workers who may be without real jobs but whom they nevertheless regard as an essential reserve for emergencies.

If a factory's production has been held up because of poor supplies — a common occurrence — it may have to catch up with its plan in a mighty rush known as "storming". For storming it helps to have as many hands

as possible, even if they spend much of the rest of the year doing nothing very worthwhile.

A big labor force also helps a factory manager meet the regular crisis calls for industrial labor to help out farms at peak moments of the harvest. A factory whose labor is all sown and bone could not detach several hundred men for farm work without doing its own production plans considerable damage.

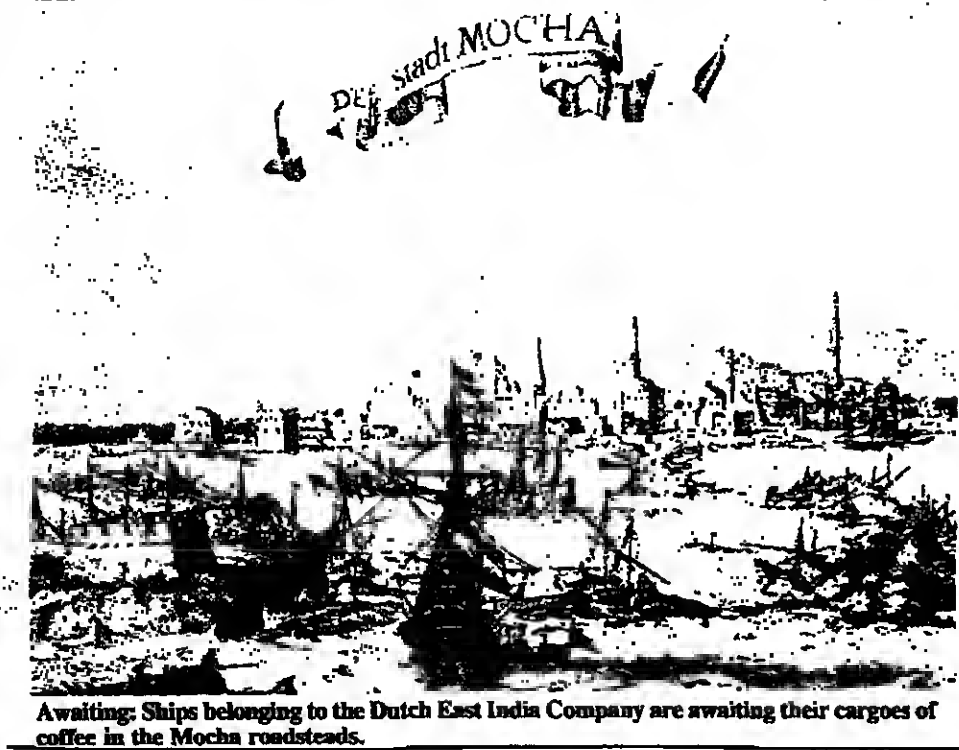
The experiment has also been limited from the start by one very important consideration. There was never any idea that workers released by the Shchekino method should be left jobless and forced to move in search of work elsewhere. The 2,000 men and women liberated at the Shchekino chemicals complex were all absorbed by new projects nearby.

Full employment is the basis of the unspoken social contract that has grown up between government and governed in the Soviet Union. To introduce what in the West is called fractional unemployment on the necessary scale would be highly unpopular and very difficult to reconcile with official ideology.

But the Shchekino method has also suffered at the hands of the central bureaucracy. Last month no less a person than Ivan Yunak, head of the Tula region party organization and a member of the central committee for over 20 years, went on television to blast the state committee for labor and wages, Moscow ministries and planning bodies for bailing back the Shchekino method even in the plant that had initiated it.

The plant is now in a classic Catch 22 situation. With its workforce now down to 5,000 it would like to reduce it further but it has been told by Moscow that under existing wage regulations it will fall into an inferior category if it does so, and both wage levels and other benefits would have to be lowered as a result.

Pravda recently printed complaints of a similar sort. The experiment's original guidelines, it said, had by now been worked over and rewritten seven times by the Committee for Labor and as a result had become "cumbersome and hard to understand". In some cases the alterations had destroyed the original purpose of the experiment.



Awaiting: Ships belonging to the Dutch East India Company are awaiting their cargoes of coffee in the Mocha roadstead.

Indian Ocean states want share in Antarctic wealth

By Arthur Gvashon

LONDON (LOS) — States around the Indian Ocean intend to challenge the Soviet Union and 10 other countries which claim exclusive rights to control, develop and exploit the resources of Antarctica.

The island republic of Seychelles, encouraged by neighbors, has undertaken to convene a meeting of regional governments interested in forming an "Indian Ocean alliance" for exploitation of Antarctica. Dr. Maxim Ferrari, foreign minister of the Seychelles, said in an interview the main purpose of the alliance would be to cooperate in pursuit of economic, political and strategic objectives.

These objectives would include staking a collective claim on behalf of the Indian Ocean nations to join any international program for exploring and exploiting the territory and resources of the Antarctic land mass where oil, uranium and other mineral deposits are expected to be found.

"The nations of the Indian Ocean are unique in that they have no outlets to the north,"

he said. "We can only move to the south and that's why, in all justice, we believe we have a right to share in the development of the Antarctic continent, which belongs to no single nation but to mankind."

Antarctica is one of the few parts of the world where East and West are working together to preserve peace and where demilitarization arrangements are respected. Twelve nations claiming either territory or scientific interest in the continent negotiated a treaty in 1959 establishing rules for orderly international administration and activity in the region. The pact reserved all Antarctic territory south of latitude 60 degrees for peaceful purposes; provided for cooperation in scientific research; and froze all territorial claims and rights.

The 12 countries are the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, France, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Norway, Belgium, Argentina, Chile and South Africa. Later Poland and West Germany were allowed to join the group because of their scientific interest.



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First time since 1979

U.S. trade in the red to tune of \$8 billion

WASHINGTON, March 18 (Agencies) — The broadest measure of U.S. foreign trade plunged into deficit last year for the first time since 1979, pulled down by a record drop at the end of the year, the government reported Thursday. A top Commerce Department economist said the deficit likely would worsen to a record in 1983.

The 1982 deficit totaled \$8.1 billion for all trade in goods, services and other financial transactions, a big shift from the \$4.5 billion surplus of 1981. The deficit for the fourth quarter alone was \$6.1 billion, the biggest quarterly shortfall analysts could find.

Commerce Undersecretary Robert Dederick, whose department compiled the report, indicated lower U.S. payments for oil imports could be bringing "a temporary strengthening" of the balance for trade in merchandise alone during the current January-March quarter.

However, he said, "a deficit of over \$20 billion is likely for all of 1983" for the overall balance of payments — well above the \$14.8 billion record for 1978.

U.S. trade in merchandise alone has been in deficit every year since 1975. The report also said that for the year as a whole, U.S. imports of foreign goods and services declined to \$350.3 billion from the previous year's \$361.8 billion. But the deficit grew because exports declined even faster — to \$350.1 billion from \$372.9 billion.

In another development, the U.S. Senate Thursday overwhelmingly adopted a \$5.1 billion public works program to beat the recession in the United States.

The plan, approved by 82 votes to 16,

WB lends \$97m to 4 states

WASHINGTON, March 18, (R) — The World Bank has approved loans totaling \$97.4 million for projects in four African countries, including \$60 million to assist a housing project in Morocco.

The other loans are for Cameroon, Guinea-Bissau and Zambia. The bank said in a statement that Morocco's project would help Credit Immobilier et Hotelier, a mortgage bank, extend credit for 13,000 proposed housing units.

The loan to Morocco is for 17 years, including four years of grace, at an annual interest rate linked to borrowing costs. Cameroon



would provide temporary work for about one million of the 11.4 million jobless in the country. It now goes to a joint Senate-House Representatives committee to iron out its differences with a \$4.9 billion similar plan adopted by the House early this month.

Last year, President Ronald Reagan's administration strongly opposed a public works proposal by opposition Democrats in Congress. But last month Reagan agreed to cooperate on a bipartisan plan and is expected to sign the bill into law when it finally emerges from both houses.

will receive a 20-year, \$20 million loan at an annual interest rate of 11.6 percent to support projects in Douala and the Yaounde.

Projects in Guinea-Bissau and Zambia will receive \$13.1 million and \$4.3 million, respectively, from the international development association, a World Bank affiliate. The project in Guinea-Bissau would promote petroleum exploration, and Zambia would use its funds to support a feasibility study of the Maamba colliery, the bank said.

The bank said its loan would allow a four-year grace period and charge an annual interest rate linked to the cost of borrowing.

Argentina opts for selective price control

BUENOS AIRES, March 18 (AP) — The military regime imposed price controls on certain manufacturers and producers Thursday in an effort to slow record inflation that saw consumer prices rise 30 percent in the year's first two months.

The action came in a resolution issued by the economy ministry affecting 1,031 major producers of goods ranging from machinery to foodstuffs.

The resolution fixes limits on how much the affected industries can raise prices during the coming nine months. The monthly limit for the next three months is nine percent, followed by four months of eight percent hikes and two months of seven percent markups.

The controls envision a 161 percent inflation rate for the year, which is just one percentage point above what the regime promised International Monetary Fund authorities trying to help Argentina refinance its \$38 billion foreign debt.

The companies affected by the resolution receive credit benefits in return for compliance. The interest rate they pay on money already borrowed from the central bank is lowered from 11 to 9 percent a month.

The bank will extend new credits to the affected companies at 6 percent a month interest. Consumer prices rose 209 percent here last year — the second year in row this country had the world's highest inflation.

ACP's discontent bodes ill for Lome pact

BRUSSELS, March 18 (R) — A special pact once held up as a shining example of partnership between the European Economic Community and more than 60 of its former colonies has run into problems that threaten its future.

Discontent among African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) signatories of the Lome Convention, as the pact is called, has in the past given rise to a few grumblings. But in the last few months their disquiet over parts of the Lome Convention, which covers special trade concessions as well as direct aid from the community, has broken out into the open and could develop into a full-scale row, diplomats say.

"There is no doubt that current tensions have soured the atmosphere of cooperation," one community diplomat said.

ACP diplomats blame the tensions on economic recession and what they see as lack of political commitment among member states toward development issues.

Both they and community officials are concerned that unless the problems of the present five-year accord are resolved, talks later this year on a new convention could be seriously undermined.

Later this month the community's executive commission will put forward its guidelines for a new Lome to replace the present one that expires at the end of 1984 and ACP diplomats say these will be crucial to the future. "The attitude they take will decide whether we can enter a new phase of cooperation, create a new basis together,

EEC admits ties soured

which will take us to the end of the century," one ACP diplomat said.

Under the Lome Convention, which dates back to 1975 but whose origins started with the community in 1958, the Common Market grants the 63 ACP countries duty-free access for industrial goods, special concessions on farm products and wide-ranging financial and technical cooperation. A large part of the community's annual aid payments of about \$13 billion goes to the pact — a sum more than twice that provided by the United States, according to community statistics.

Ironically, the main bone of contention is the "Stabex" agreement which the community hoped would be used as a model for the

rest of the world to copy, commission officials say. Under Stabex, commodity-producing ACP countries were to be guaranteed steady revenue for their exports of raw materials through complex financial arrangements.

But severe recession in the West coupled with a drastic fall in the price of commodities like coffee and cocoa have strained the system's resources almost to breaking point.

In 1981, applications for refunds through the system totaled more than \$450 million, far in excess of the \$112 million set aside for the year, according to community statistics. ACP diplomats blame the failure of Stabex on the reluctance of the community to increase funds available.

Franc's plunge may drown Mauroy

PARIS, March 18 (AFP) — French Premier Pierre Mauroy's immediate political future seems to hinge on the continued weakness of the French franc.

On the money market there are persistent rumors of an imminent shakeup within the European Monetary System (EMS) leading to a devaluation of the French franc and revaluation of the West German mark.

After a brief lull, the French franc was again under fierce attack Thursday while the mark humped against its maximum permitted levels within the EMS in Frankfurt and Paris.

Market analysts have been predicting for some months that the EMS would be realigned after the municipal elections in France and the West German general elec-

tions earlier this month.

But while currency speculation eased during the pre-election period, it has now built up again to fever pitch with the Bank of France outlaying more than 23 billion franc (\$3.3 billion) just between March 3 and 10 — 10 times more than the previous week.

The pressure on the franc has been heightened by talk of a ministerial reshuffle. Originally, it was expected President Francois Mitterrand would announce the changes immediately following last Sunday's second-round local elections. But observers believed that the surprise rebound of the left, which limited its losses after a disastrous first round, has led Mitterrand to hold off on the reshuffle till he speaks to the nation next March 23.

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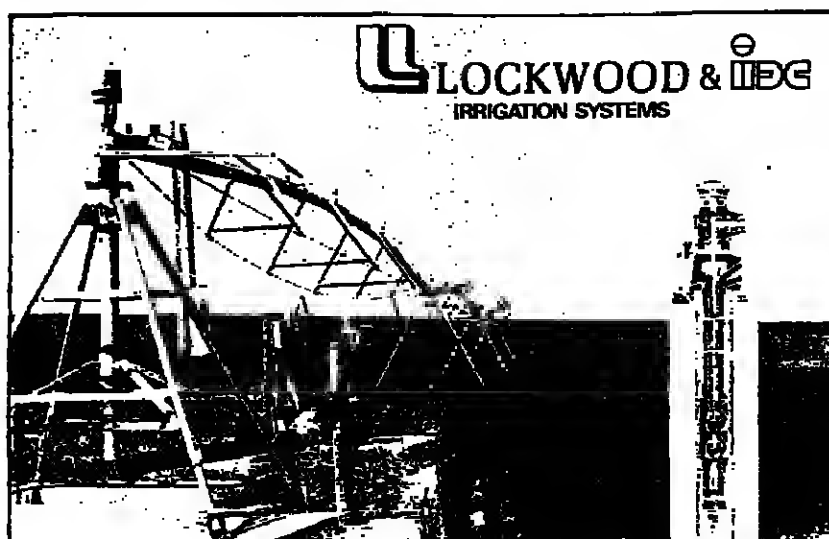
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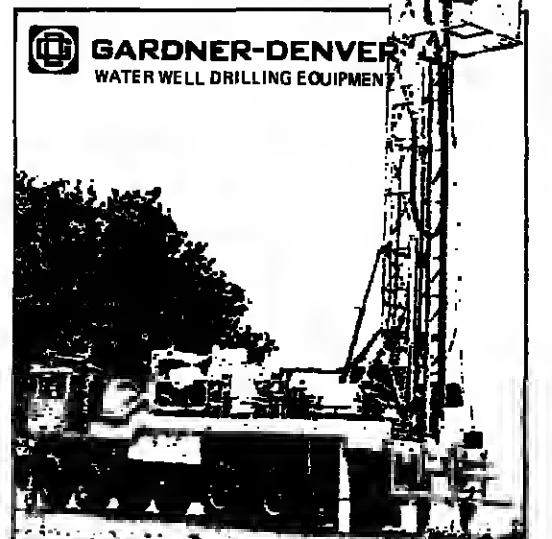
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Despite fall in oil costs

U.S. wholesale prices increase

WASHINGTON, March 18 (Agencies) — American wholesale prices rose a slight 0.1 percent in February as higher food prices canceled out fresh declines in gasoline and fuel oil costs, the U.S. government said Friday.

The new decline in the labor department's producer price index for finished goods, coming after a record one percent drop in January, bolsters economists' predictions that wholesale inflation might be down substantially from last year's moderate 3.5 percent. Indeed, one economist predicts the year's inflation rate could be as tiny as 0.1 percent, which would be the economy's best showing since the 0.2 percent decline of 1963.

In the February report, the department said energy costs overall fell 2.9 percent, the third straight monthly decline. Energy prices fell a record 4.2 percent in the previous month. Fuel oil prices were off 7.2 percent, the new report said, after plummeting 9.7 percent. Gasoline prices fell 5 percent, outpacing the previous 3.3 percent drop.

But natural gas, down a record 2.7 percent in the previous month, rose 3.2 percent in the new report. Those prices had soared 20.7 percent in all of last year, largely as a result of congressional decontrol of new-gas costs. The energy price calculations reported Friday were actually for January and do not reflect any drops brought about by OPEC's

recent \$5 a barrel cut in its base price for crude oil. Energy price calculations always lag a month behind the rest of the index.

Meanwhile, the European Community's executive commission said Thursday in Brussels the U.S. economic upturn, lower interest rates and falling oil prices offered for the first time in years the chance of lasting recovery in Europe.

But, in a detailed analysis prepared for a summit meeting of community heads of government opening Monday, the commission said prospects for a decisive emergence from three years of recession were far from certain. It urged the leaders of the 10-nation trading bloc to adopt a set of clear priorities to translate the more favorable outlook into a sustained return to growth.

These would combine some easing of the austerity programs of the community's three strongest economies — West Germany, Britain and the Netherlands — with closer international action to moderate lending and exchange rates. The commission, which said its analysis should form the basis of the community's position at a seven-nation world

economic summit in Williamsburg, Virginia, in May, said lower borrowing costs were central to economic expansion.

West Germany, Britain and the Netherlands, the nations which had achieved most success in tackling inflation and restoring their trade balances, should adapt their monetary policies to encourage a steady fall in interest rates, the commission said. At the same time, the community should seek "explicit recognition" from Washington of the central role of lower borrowing costs in stimulating industrial recovery.

European governments fear that a burgeoning U.S. budget deficit could reverse the trend toward lower interest rates, snuffing out hopes of an expansion of world trade. The commission's latest economic forecast shows the community's economy growing by a meager 0.4 percent this year, but officials say that this figure may be over-optimistic.

The commission's report said that while community states still needed to keep a tight rein on their budget deficits, Britain and West Germany had scope to give a modest inflationary boost to economic growth.

Australia urges end to sugar deals

LONDON, March 18 (AP) — Australia has called for an end to special sugar arrangements which escape the International Sugar Organization's control of the world free sugar market, sources at the ISO conference said Thursday.

The call was made at a meeting of the preparatory committee which is trying to outline a new world sugar pact, to be discussed at a full negotiating conference under U.N. Conference of Trade and Development auspices in Geneva May 2. The talks, at which the European Economic Community is also taking part, is aimed at bringing the 10-nation grouping into the free market sugar family.

World sugar consumption currently is running at around 93 million metric tons a year while production runs at around 98 million tons. Most of the sugar produced in the world is eaten in producer countries. The world free market, around which the talks center, has been estimated at 18 million metric tons, but actual exports under the ISO's current export quotas system have whittled this down to about 12.5 million metric tons in the current crop year.

The special agreements, which escape the ISO's control, have been tolerated ever since sugar pacts were first set up in 1968.

They include about 3 million metric tons a year from Cuba to the Soviet Union, 500,000 tons from Cuba to East European Communist bloc countries and 1.3 million metric tons from the Africa-Caribbean-Pacific sugar-producing countries to the European Economic Community.

On the other hand, the EEC, which also never has been a member of sugar pacts, this year is expected to export about 5.65 million metric tons of raw value sugar. This means that, with the bilateral agreements, about 10.45 million tons escapes the ISO's control out of a total world trade of raw sugar estimated at 23 million metric tons this crop year.

Conference sources said the Australians are proposing that since the Geneva conference is aimed at bringing the EEC into the pact, it would also make sense to abolish bilateral agreements. Despite export quotas negotiated under the ISO, sugar is currently at low prices.

BRIEFS

COTONOU (AFP) — Landlocked African countries could benefit from more favorable tariffs for their exports by sea through neighboring states, following discussions here. The UKWAL (United Kingdom West Africa Line) conference, grouping British, Nigerian, Ivorian and Norwegian shipowners, agreed to select 13 products, which could benefit from lower charges in talks with an African committee dealing with European maritime conferences.

SEOUL (AFP) — South Korea will send

some 150 technicians to Lebanon early next month to repair telephone lines in three Lebanese cities — Beirut, Juniyeh and Jubail — officials said here Friday.

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. Agriculture Secretary John R. Block next week will lead a farm trade group on a 10-day trip to five countries to promote U.S. agricultural products. It was announced Thursday. The itinerary includes Saudi Arabia, Great Britain, Tunisia, Egypt and Turkey.

LONDON (AFP) — Multimillion dollar

Inflation rate rises in U.K.

LONDON, March 18 (R) — Britain's annual inflation rate rose last month for the first time since May, government figures showed Friday.

The growth of retail prices rose to a yearly rate of 5.3 percent in February compared with 4.9 percent, the lowest in 13 years, in January. The main price increases were for clothes, cigarettes and cars, the department of employment said in its report on the figures.

"What has humped up this month will bump down again over the next three months as the rate heads down toward the region of four percent in May," said Employment Secretary Norman Tebbit. After a period of decline, government ministers have been expecting prices to go up.

Finance Minister Sir Geoffrey Howe said in his annual budget speech to parliament Tuesday that inflation would rise to six percent by the end of this year. The Conservative government has reduced inflation from a peak of nearly 22 percent in May 1980 but he said some check in the progress was unavoidable because of the lower exchange rate of the pound sterling.

U.S. wants check on oil technology sale to Soviets

PARIS, March 18 (R) — The United States was trying Thursday to persuade reluctant allies to agree on new controls on sales of oil and gas technology to the Soviet Union, Western diplomats said.

The forum for Washington's latest bid for consensus on an issue which has led to trans-Atlantic strains is a two-day session in Paris of Cocom, an organization which coordinates controls on the export of strategic items to Communist bloc nations. The diplomats said U.S. Assistant Commerce Secretary Lawrence Brady was stressing on oil and gas equipment at the meeting, the first since last October, the subject is closely linked with Washington's unsuccessful attempt last year to block allied participation in a Soviet project to build a gas pipeline from Siberia to Western Europe.

Anglo-Chinese joint venture schemes to combat pollution in Chinese cities will be discussed during a three-week tour of the U.K. by Chinese environmental specialists.

KATHMANDU (AP) — Pakistan and Nepal agreed Friday to institute regular commercial flights between the two countries and to other points. Official documents were signed here by the chairman of Pakistan International Airlines (PIA), Maj. Gen. M. Rahim Khan and Nepal's Secretary of Tourism Ministry Tej Bahadur Prasad.

BRASILIA (AFP) — Brazil needs \$5 billion this year for debt repayment purposes, the Central Bank said.

U.S.-China textile talks end without agreement

PEKING, March 18 (AFP) — A new series of Sino-U.S. negotiations on textiles has ended here without reaching an agreement, but Ambassador Peter Murphy, the U.S. negotiator, said in a statement Friday that "progress was made."

The statement, made as he left for Washington, added: "But differences remain to be resolved." A difficult dispute over imports of Chinese textiles into the United States has blocked renewal of a textile agreement which expired at the end of last year. In the absence of a new pact, the United States has adopted unilateral restrictions on such imports — spurring the Chinese to halt its purchases of U.S. cotton, soybeans and synthetic fibers.

Murphy's statement specified neither what progress had been made nor what problems remained to be solved. There was no immediate comment from the Chinese side.

Ambassador Murphy added that the U.S. side was "confident that at some point agreement will be reached." The one-week negotiating session just ended here was the fifth since talks started last August. Murphy said that "both sides expressed interest in continuing the negotiations," without saying whether a date had been set for a new session of talks.

The United States is seeking to limit the increase in Chinese textile imports and insists on the need to stabilize its market, which is currently in recession. China, the world's biggest textiles producer, wants to export more than the Americans are willing to import and defends its stance by emphasizing that the United States enjoys a surplus in its overall

trade with China. Meanwhile, officials said in Paris Thursday that Franco-Chinese negotiations over possible French participation in the construction of an 1,800 megawatt nuclear power station in Canton province will resume when Chinese Foreign Trade Minister Chen Muhua arrives on April 6.

Mrs. Muhua will meet French Foreign Trade Minister Michel Jobert, April 7, before going on to London to discuss the project with British officials. China's Deputy Power Minister Li Peng already discussed the project with Jobert and Energy Minister Edmond Herve during a visit last November.

Talks are also currently taking place in Hong Kong between a British delegation, local officials and Chinese negotiators over possible finance for the planned \$5 billion plant which could be in service by 1990. Hong Kong has said it could take a 40 percent share in the project, the first of foreign design to be built in China, and the British colony's electricity company has agreed to take 40 percent of the plant's output.

While London has suggested joint Franco-British participation, French officials would prefer an all-French interest with the Framatome Company supplying the nuclear material and Alstom Company providing the non-nuclear part of the reactor. British authorities hope that the GEC company jointly build the plant with Framatome, British trade diplomats said in Paris.

U.S. Westinghouse, which hoped to make a deal with GEC over the plant's construction, seems no longer to be in the running for tenders, French officials said.

Turkish assembly signals adoption of banking law

ANKARA, March 18 (R) — Turkey's National Consultative Assembly, which is appointed by the military government, has signaled its acceptance of a draft law giving sweeping powers to the cabinet over the country's troubled financial sector.

The assembly voted down a recommendation of rejection by its financial subcommittee and the law will now be returned to the committee for reconsideration. It is likely to be voted on finally by the assembly next week. Finance Minister Adnan Baser Kafaloglu told the assembly the state needed powers to alter, abolish or renew by decree most of the laws governing the financial sector, to shake up the banking system.

The country's 40 retail banks have suffered liquidity problems recently and several are reported by banking sources to be close to collapse. On Monday, the Finance Ministry sacked the executive boards of two middle-ranking private banks, Istanbul Bankasi and Hisarbank, replacing them with officials of the State Agriculture Bank. Kafaloglu said the government was ready to intervene

further once it had the powers in the draft law.

In another development, the general director of the Turkish State Coal Corporation TKI has rejected claims of official negligence in the coal pit disaster that killed 98 miners in the Armutcuk mine, near the Black Sea, on March 7.

Hasan Mumcu told the semi-official Anatolian news agency that 18 superintendents were at work and all security records were in order at the time of the gas explosion. There were 406 men down the mine when the explosion occurred.

Miners, unionists and the press have alleged that safety standards at the mine were not sufficient and security officials had not checked properly the levels of gas in the pit before the blasts. Mumcu said all mines in the coal field were equipped with electronic devices for detecting gas. "If they were working, it is impossible for an accumulation of gas not to be noticed," the general director said.

An official investigation is under way into the disaster and Mumcu said it would go into every aspect of the accident in minute detail.

Foreign Exchange Rates

Quoted at 5:00 p.m. Thursday

	Unit	Transfer
Bahraini Dinar	9.25	9.14
Baghdadi Taka	14.21	14.11
Belgian Franc (1,000)	74.00	73.82
Canadian Dollar		2.33
Deutsche Mark (100)	145.00	144.80
Dutch Guilder (100)	131.00	130.48
Egyptian Pound	3.11	3.19
Emirati Dirham (100)	93.25	94.60
French Franc (100)	50.60	50.32
Greek Drachma (1,000)	38.00	41.30
Indian Rupee (100)		34.59
Iraqi Dinar	5.80	
Israeli Lira (10,000)	24.50	24.40
Japanese Yen (1,000)	15.30	14.60
Jordanian Dinar	9.72	9.69
Kuwaiti Dinar	11.84	11.80
Lebanese Lira (100)	82.30	81.72
Moroccan Dirham (100)	53.10	54.28
Pakistani Rupee (100)	28.10	26.80
Philippine Peso (100)		36.35
Pound Sterling	5.23	5.19
Qatari Riyal (100)	94.25	94.60
Singapore Dollar (100)		165.45
Spanish Peseta (1,000)		26.26
Sri Lankan Rupee (100)	168.70	168.00
Syrian Lira (100)	60.00	61.60
Turkish Lira (1,000)		
U.S. Dollar	3.45	3.44
Yemeni Riyal (100)	75.15	75.15

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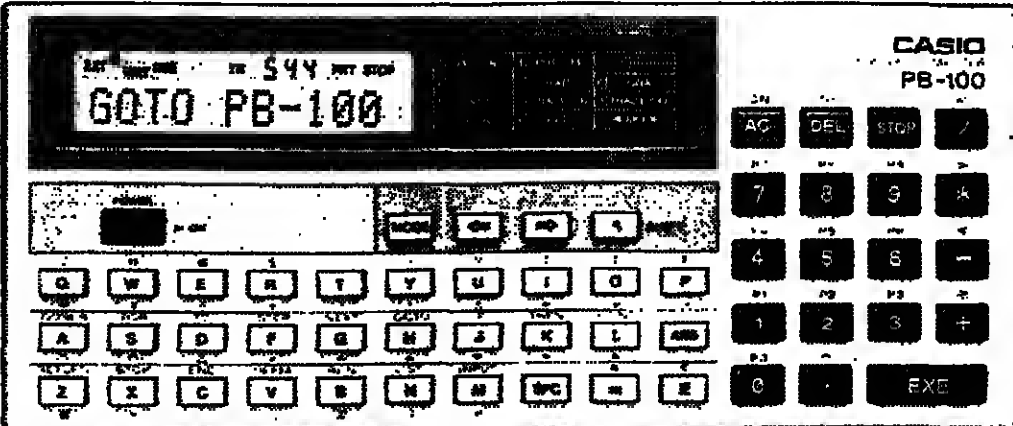
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Attracts one million visitors

Paris signals tomorrow's farm revolution

By Dave Kaker
Arab News Staff

PARIS — There was all the excitement which only a combination of traditional rodeos, county fairs and the serious business of making a living out of agriculture can provide. But the 20th International Agricultural Show (SIA) held at the Agricultural World Center in the first week of March offered something more.

And something for everyone too, with more than one million visitors sampling the finest agricultural food products in the world. Many exhibitors showed the latest mechanical and scientific technology to make farming more efficient, productive and profitable. Some said they were launching their products in Paris and would later present them during the upcoming agricultural show in Riyadh.

The exhibits occupied a total space of more than 25 acres, making it the largest event of its kind in the world. There were eight large pavilions but every available space outside the halls was utilized for display purposes. Manufacturers featured everything from traditional farm equipment like tractors and mowers, to more futuristic motorized hang-gliders equipped to spray crops and accessory equipment and products to aid farmers in their day-to-day operations.

Farm equipment manufacturers indicated they were always on the look-out for better ways of meeting the vital needs of agronomy, labor productivity and farm management. They proved it by displaying new range of tractors which used remarkably less energy, while at the same time maintaining an essential degree of comfort and adaptability to a wide variety of uses.

There was a marked trend toward four-wheel drive machines, power lifts to accommodate an increasing number of mounted implements to simplify certain jobs such as soil preparation, phytosanitary treatments and harvesting.

The show featured combination equipment which would accommodate varied implements on seeders such as power harrows, sprayers and slug control devices which would make filling and accompanying sowing much easier. Seeders exhibited at the show were as big as six and even eight-meters wide. Fertilizer placement, spreading and spraying machines were designed to minimize compaction damage with the addition of four wheels and wide tires.

Harvesting machines were in full development with both axial flow and conventional flow machines in abundance. Several exhibitors offered original solutions for separating straw and grain. Straw is being handled in large bales, with their dimensions adapted to those of farm yards or to the layout of buildings. If harvesting is not mechanized, it is handled by new and ingenious types of loading forks or elevator loaders.

In transport and handling labor-saving was emphasized by harrows with trailers of greater carrying capacity. The largest models shown at the exhibition were equipped with multiple axles, of which one could be converted to an idling or steering axle. Diversified trailers better suited to varied needs, including loaders and elevators fitted at the front or rear of tractors and various handling trucks were in abundant supply.

Land improvement also took a prominent place in the stands with trenchers with draining attachments and advanced automatic adjustments, ditch cleaners, and irrigation systems which minimized the use of water, energy and labor. Electronics and other logic systems were in evidence on many machines, as indeed on tractors, combine harvesters, seeders and sprayers which simplified controls and automation.

One of the most popular pavilions at the show offered a selection of the finest agricultural products with visitors receiving numerous free samples of cheeses, yogurt, fruit, vegetables, bread and preserves.

Local organizations such as the renowned Center of the French Provinces 'Le Marche' presented a variety of high-grade, carefully-selected products with a free-standing sample stand in which the promotion committee offered its best products for visitors to taste. The food trade group 'Provinces de France' exhibited fine French produce and also presented typical French products. Individual exhibitors, belonging to the group, came out with an all-inclusive display which included dairy products, cheeses, vegetables and other products. Foreign exhibitors also showed their most typical products and enabled visitors to taste both natural and manufactured foods.

More than 1,800 experts passed judgment on more than 5,300 samples of products, ranging from cheese, chickens, honey, edible oils and fruit juices during the 92nd Agricultural Open Competition. The results of the competitions were listed in a show publication.

Fifty of the international experts participating are members of the juries for cheeses for export, a section set up in 1972 and finding increasing favor with foreign importers. Ten countries took part in this



FARMING EQUIPMENT: The large harvester shown on top is self-contained with a huge blade and an enclosed cab to protect the driver from weather. Some of the more traditional tractors exhibited outside the pavilions are also seen here.

section — Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Britain and Japan. A number of foreign observers and about 30 journalists from various countries watched the juries fulfilling their duties during an assortment of contests.

Contests were held for butter, cream, yogurt, dried milk, other milk, lactic cheeses, cheeses and cheeses for export. In the sundry products category competitions were held for ciders, fruit juices, slaughtered poultry, apianian products and vegetable oils etc.

Professional breeders attending the show found all they need to fulfill their requirements: incubators, handling equipment, slaughtering and packaging equipment, as well as all poultry in highly-selected breeds such as guinea fowls, palmpeps, rabbits and pigeons. Concurrently with the professional exhibition, more than 250 pure-bred poultry were presented, some of them rarely seen. A 'Grand Prix' award was presented to the firm exhibiting a new animal breed, product or equipment that will improve cost effectiveness, lower energy consumption, the well being of animals and working conditions.

The 92nd general prize competition for livestock was also held during the show. The week-long contest ended with a grand parade of prize-winning contestants and animals held March 12. A products competition, held for professionals only, took place March 4 and 5.

Stock-farming exhibits extended over an area of more than 465,000 square feet, where 10 European and other countries showed their finest breeding specimens. All types of livestock from Austria, Belgium, Canada, France, the Netherlands, Switzerland and Britain were shown and even exhibited in most of the pavilions, with best of show awards presented in each category of horses, beef cattle, sheep, goats, poultry and even dogs. Throughout the best week, competitions were held to determine show ring performance of various animals and even included contests for youth in tractor-weight-pulling and other farm skills which encourage youth development.

More than 190 youths in the 17 to 25 age group participated in the mechanized farming championships. They were chosen after more than 750 preliminary heats involving 26,000 competitions. The competitions covered tractor-weight-pulling contests, ploughing championships and other events designed to encourage youth to develop their farming skills.

The Organized Horse Show, with some of

the world's best horses displayed and entered in jumping competitions drew a large amount of interest. The first such show was organized in 1966 by the National Center for Exhibitions and Agricultural Open Competitions in cooperation with the organizers of the Official International Horse Show. The popularity of horse jumping competitions became evident in 1975 when the Paris International Jumping Competition was held and such

events have been an integral part of the Agricultural Show ever since.

More than 100 high-bred horses took part in jumping events during the 1983 show with young riders exhibiting their fine skills and proudly displaying their animals.

Other competitions included the International Poultry-Raising Show, an exhibition of the genetics, feedstuffs, pathology and environmental factors.

Fears of nuclear war break joys of rainbow

By Scott Kraft

NEW YORK (AP) — The more Heather Parsons thought about the unthinkable, the worse she felt about it, "like I should just cut my head off. It's scary."

The possibility of nuclear war worries 9-year-old Heather and many others in a generation of children trying to understand one of the most complicated issues of the times.

"Kids have a special interest in this issue," said Daniela Stromberg, 17, a co-founder of Kids Outreach, a group of New York City teenagers that talks to children about nuclear weapons, war, fear of dying in a war and the power of an atomic bomb.

"They don't have a future yet. They haven't grown up," she said. "I have 60 or 70 or 80 more years to live, and if this planet isn't around for that long, I miss out."

Uncertainty about the future of the planet may cause children to lose hope, to develop a get-it-now value system or even to turn to drugs or cults, psychiatrists and teachers say. Schools, and children themselves, are finding ways to ease that uncertainty by discussing the fear and dread.

At public school 3 in Greenwich village, Heather and her classmates recently discussed nuclear war with teens from Kids Outreach.

"It makes me feel sad," said one girl. "If they do drop the bomb on any of the cities, then kids and people are going to die."

A boy added: "They might bomb us even if we won the war."

And a third child said: "Why did they make nuclear bombs anyway? I don't like them."

"I feel good that people care," Heather said. "But I feel bad that they're not stopping it."

Kids Outreach showed the children a film, *Bombs Will Make the Rainbow Break*, in which youngsters talk about nuclear war. The class then talked over its feelings about nuclear weapons and war.

The "whole idea is not to get them all riled up," said Rose Greenberg, 17, a discussion leader. "We just want them to know we're thinking about this, too. Kids are exposed to

talk of nuclear war everyday, and they worry."

Dan Zulawski, Heather's instructor, said he thought the session was helpful. "It raised their awareness of the whole issue and didn't seem to leave them frightened," he said.

Teachers are trying to help. The National Education Association asked 48 junior high school teachers to test a new curriculum, "Choices: a unit on conflict and nuclear war," and decided this year to offer the curriculum nationwide.

John Furgione, who taught the 15-lesson plan at Landis Middle School in Vineland, New Jersey, said the course helped make children "aware that they're not helpless and the situation is not hopeless."

"Choices," co-sponsored by the Education Association and the Union of Concerned Scientists, includes a historical overview of the nuclear situation as well as scientific and economic information, and suggestions for art projects and writing exercises.

It is designed to give youngsters "who have a lot of fear of nuclear war some substantial understanding of how weapons work and how our country and the Soviet Union can negotiate a solution," said Robert McClure, head of the project for the association.

In a recent study by Harvard University psychiatrist William Beardslee and John Mack, a majority of the high school students surveyed said they had become aware of nuclear developments before age 12.

The Harvard psychiatrists said society had underestimated the effect of nuclear developments on America's youth. Society needs to protect them "from the devastating psychological impact...to avoid creating a citizenry that experiences little or no stake in the present or the future," the report said.

Adolescents' goals and values depend on a present life that is perceived as enduring and a future upon which they can rely, the Harvard study said. If society and its leaders are perceived cynically and the future as uncertain, "a value system of 'get-it-now,' the hyperstimulation of drugs and the proliferation of apocalyptic cults...seem to be natural developments," the report said.

He added that the panda's cerebral system and position of the heart are similar to those of man. Dissections of seven adult animals, which died from illness or old age, and three still-born cubs, aided the researchers in their study, he added.

"This was the first time in or outside of China such a comprehensive anatomic study on giant pandas was done," he said.

Professor Lin indicated that the animal, in existence for more than 600,000 years, was formerly a carnivore forced to adapt to variations in the environment which led it to eat almost exclusively bamboo.

Chinese panda is carnivore

PEKING (AFP) — Chinese scientists have discovered during a study conducted over more than two years that the giant panda, an endangered species unique to China, is a carnivore even though it eats almost exclusively bamboo, according to the New China News Agency (NCNA).

Professor Lin Dacheng of the Agricultural Institute of Peking said that pandas, whose teeth, skeleton, digestive and intestinal systems resemble those of carnivorous animals, sometimes eat small animals, such as mice. In one of China's 15 nature reserves for pandas, researchers were surprised to find a panda

word watch

By Howard Dana Shaw

Sky could fall: Mrs. D.D.M. quotes Woodrow Wilson to prove she should say in the circumstances, and she declares that under the circumstances is her pet peeve. Maybe the moral of this story is: be careful of your peeves.

Numerous sources on English usage say nothing at all about this question. But Bergan Evans (Dictionary of Contemporary American Usage) discusses it; and Margaret Nicholson (Dictionary of American-English Usage) writes quite an essay on the subject.

The gist: both forms are correct. You can be under or in a circumstance. The weather is a circumstance, for instance, and Nicholson says "A threatening sky is as much a circumstance as a threatening bulldog."

The Oxford English Dictionary traces under the circumstances back to 1665.

Visiting the Himalayas: On a rainy Saturday I thought I'd try to learn the proper way to pronounce a couple of geographical names that have always wondered me. How about the mountains, for instance, that run for 1,500 miles through half a dozen countries in Asia (and include Mount Everest)? Do you say hi-MOLL-yuz or him-a-LAY-uz?

Either way is perfectly correct, I found, but most dictionaries point to the second pronunciation as the more common (say LAY in the third syllable).

Incidentally, I discovered that the adject-

tive form, *Himalayan*, refers also to a small white rabbit with black nose, ear tips, feet and tail.

Another puzzler for some, including myself, is the *Caribbean* where everybody goes cruising these days. Are people trying to upstage you when they call it ka-RIB-ee-um? All my dictionaries give kara-BEE-un first. That doesn't necessarily mean the dictionary considers it's the preferred pronunciation. It merely reports that it's the more common pronunciation.

Now you know: It's a strange word. Most of us never heard of it until it popped up lately to mean nur crumbling system of roads and bridges. It doesn't even appear in one of our best dictionaries—the American Heritage.

How come the word *infrastructure* suddenly joined the vocabulary of the media? Is it an example of bureaucratic gobbledegook designed to help raise our taxes? The prefix *infra* is Latin and means below or beneath. (*Infra* refers to the magnetic waves beyond the red end of the visible spectrum.)

Definitions of *infrastructure* that appear in at least two of our dictionaries probably justify its current use to mean the network of highways that hold us together. These definitions refer to the underlying framework of transportation, communication and power on which modern society depends.

Readers are invited to write to Mr. Shaw in care of this newspaper.

Philippines banana exports find Japan market slippery

By Feliciano Magno

MANILA (Depthnews) — The Japanese no longer consider the banana as an "exotic" fruit and this explains the current slump in Philippine banana exports. Shipments for 1982 were projected to reach only 200,941 metric tons compared with last year's 214,683 tons for a volume drop of 6.40 percent.

Waning popularity of the fruit among the Japanese is cited as the principal reason for the slump in an industry study conducted by the Private Development Corp. of the Philippines (PDCP).

Per capita banana consumption in Japan had dropped to 5.03 kilograms as of 1981 compared with 6 kilos in 1978, according to the study. The slump ends the boom years for the country's banana trade which started in 1969 with the initial shipment purchased by Japan.

However, the study stresses that Japan will continue to be the main market for Philippine banana exports in the years ahead. Japan accounted for 68 percent of total exports as of last April.

The study also reports that the Middle East is becoming an important outlet. The region purchased 63,980 tons of the 1981 total exports, with Japan taking in 136,961 tons.

Newest non-Japanese market for Philippine grown bananas is New Zealand. It started importing in 1980 and is expected to increase its purchases. The study indicates that the New Zealand outlet should encourage exporters to seek other new markets in order to compensate for the decreasing Japanese imports.

Japan's purchases of Philippine bananas have been declining in the past five years. Its highest share of export was 89 percent and this occurred in 1977. Since then, the percentage has slipped and came down to 68 as of last April.

Somewhat compensating for volume decline in this year's banana exports is the 3.88 percent increase in earnings. Central Bank figures cited by PDCP show the exports brought in \$31.63 million in the first quarter of 1982 as against the \$30.45 million for the same period in 1981.

The increase in earnings, however, proved meaningless to banana producers who in 1980 suffered a collective loss of \$3.3 million. The study indicates that losses for 1981 and 1982 could be bigger due to escalating fertilizer, transportation, labor and other production costs.

Fourteen producers based in Davao City, Southern Philippines are identified by the study as representing the banana export industry. Eleven of them are reported to be awash in red ink and are burling further because of the current slump.

Losses being suffered by the firms could prompt mergers, sellouts or diversification to other export crops, according to PDCP. And these are not far-fetched if the present slump continues.

The study predicts near-term prospects of the industry to remain "less favorable unless a resurgence in Japan's demand occurs." It says the industry will be able to make only a slight rise from its historical trend in the past decade and that no dramatic improvements are expected in 1983.



NO CRUISE: Gagged demonstrators stand outside the High Court in London to protest the court's directive to a group of women demonstrating against the basing of Cruise missiles in Britain to leave their camp outside the RAF station at Greenham Common.

STOP KILLING YOURSELF

STRESS PRODUCES 'INDIGESTION'

By Peter J. Steincrohn M.D., F.A.C.P.

Dear Dr. Steincrohn: I'm 35, happily married for 15 years and believe I'm the victim of early change of life. I've become nervous and easily fatigued. I have hot flashes. I feel easily depressed. But worse than anything else is my indigestion. I've had diarrhea and constipation, trouble in swallowing, also enough gas to float a dirigible. My husband has been sympathetic, but I've been hard on him and our three preteens. I've had every kind of diagnostic test but all come up negative. I do not have ulcer, gall bladder trouble or colitis. Our good old family doc says he knows the cause of my trouble. He calls it stress. I wonder if taking on a new job during the past year and taking care of my husband and children are too much for me to handle. I like my work but maybe I've taken on a tremendous extra load of responsibility. Is that possible?—Mrs. A.

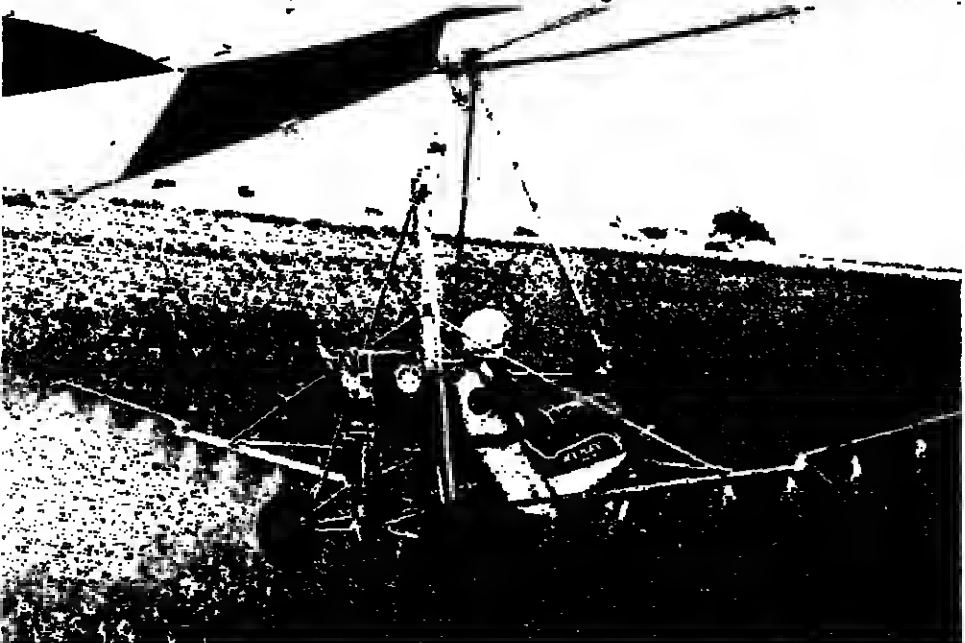
Dear Mrs. A.: I'd guess "more likely" than possible. I think your "old doc" is close to making the correct diagnosis. All your tests rule out organic disease. Many millions like yourself suffer some form of digestive complaint due to abnormal stress and tension in their lives. Their symptoms are those of actual disease. I've known so many patients who suffered from irritable bowel, spastic colitis, acid indigestion and large amounts of gas that interfered with swallowing. Carefully looking into their history, I was not surprised that all had one common denominator: Tension (the big T). I wonder, Mrs. A., if your doctor has suggested you give up your job for a while. That would be a diagnostic test. If you improved — as so many do — the answer is that tension is your problem. These days, it's not easy to resign from a remunerative job. Nevertheless, in balance, sometimes it's necessary to do so to recapture good health.

MEDICALETTES

(Replies to and from readers)

For Mrs. B.: What do I think of the new diet that promises all the vitamins and minerals you need plus effective, miraculous weight-loss? Especially since it allows you to shed fat without making you hungry and yet provides all the nourishment you need? My answer is that like all short cuts to weight loss, it is bound to fail in the long run. Bets are on that you'll eventually regain your excess poundage — and more. People don't stay on these diets for life. They get tired of them and revert. Slow and easy dieting is the proper way to lose.

(Tomorrow: Exercise for mind or body?)



FUTURISTIC FARMING: This motorized hang-glider fitted with farm spraying equipment was one of the most innovative pieces on display.

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This is for the information of all, that Mr. James Hanmore, holding Passport No. 585495-C (old) B-185839 (new) of British nationality, who was working as Project Manager at our Jubail contract, has been given one month termination notice effective from March 16, 1983.

Any one having any claims against him must inform this Establishment on Telephone No. 864-1064, or in person, within one week time of appearing this notice in the newspaper. This Establishment will be having no liability after that period.

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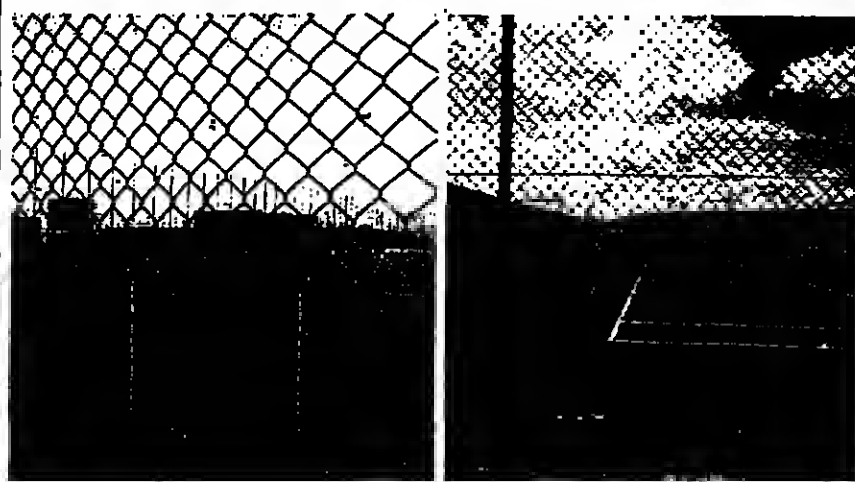
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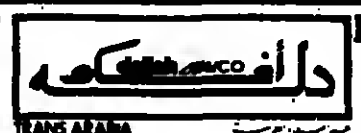
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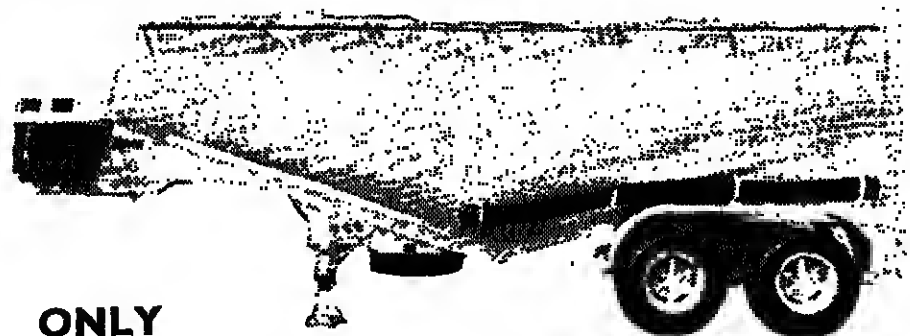
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مركز الأعمال



DENNIS the MENACE



arab news Calendar

TV Programs		
Saudi Arabia	6:19 The Roadster 7:17 Telefont's Change/ Hold on to the Past 8:05 Classic Playhouse/ Uddi Vampi 10:00 News 10:30 Song/Program Preview Evening 4:00 Opening Quran Program Preview Cartoons Children's Series (Dubbed) Children's School Modern Mathematics 6:00 Quran and Knowledge Learn English English News Lente Open Seminar 9:30 Arabic News Program Review Song Daily Arabic Series Vampy Song Arabic Weekly Series News Summary Closedown	7:00 Daily Gulf Series 8:00 Local News 8:10 Entertainment & Author 9:00 Daily Arabic Series 10:00 World News 10:30 Song/Program Preview 10:50 Wrestling 11:15 Weekly Arabic Drama 1:30 Closedown
Bahrain Channel 4	4:00 Holy Quran 4:10 Religious Talk 4:25 Program Preview 4:30 Cartoons 5:00 Local Children's Programs 5:10 Children's Program 7:00 Daily Arabic Series 8:00 Arabic News 8:30 Sports 9:00 Local Quran 10:00 Old Arabic Film	Dubai Channel 33 5:00 Quran 5:10 Ikt Nabo 5:30 Cartoons 5:50 Happy Days 6:20 Buck Rogers in the 25th Century 7:10 Erit in Enough 8:00 Local News 8:10 Kaps Fun 9:00 Kame Landing 10:00 World News 10:30 Best Sellers/Features 12:00 Closedown
Bahrain Channel 55	6:00 Program Preview 6:05 Cartoons 6:35 Woodbina 7:30 News 7:30 Young Doctors 8:00 Emergency 8:50 Incredible Hulk 9:40 Marie Antoinette (in French)	Qatar 6:00 Quran 6:15 Cartoons 6:30 Educational Program 7:30 French Series 8:30 Drama in Charge 9:00 World News 9:50 Be My Guest 11:15 Wrestling 11:00 Football
Dhahran	4:00 Children's Show/ Cartoons 4:37 Vamp On/Drifts and Drops 4:50 George/Gee on the Roads 5:23 Survival/Deer in Hid- ing 5:57 The Homecomer(s) Man from Space	followed by New Sum- mary
Dubai Channel 10	4:00 Holy Quran 4:15 Religious Talk 4:30 Cartoons 5:00 Arabic Cartoons 5:30 Religious Talk 6:30 Documentary 6:30 Science & Life	

Crossword

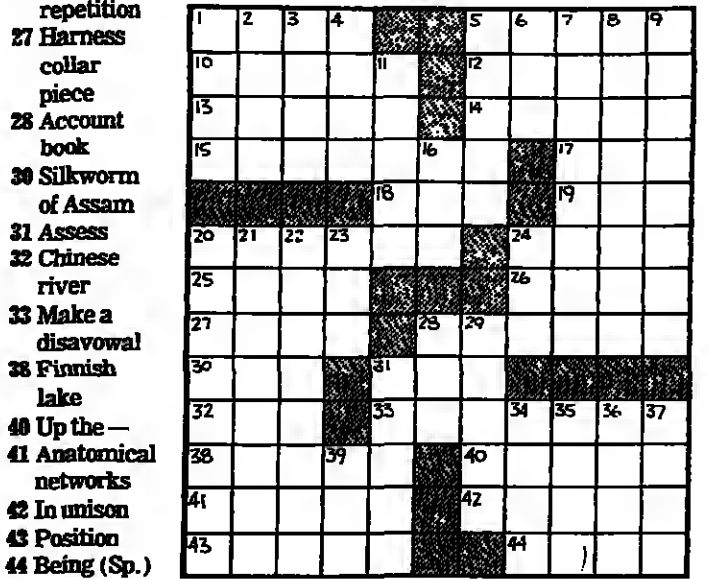
by THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS	DOWN
1 A "Grand Old Name"	1 Chess term
5 Ancient Briton	2 So be it!
10 Accumulate	3 Declaim
12 Permission	4 French river
13 Basic precept	5 Spread glee
14 Book of maps	6 Immovable
15 Implore	7 Paying homage
17 One (Fr.)	8 Fade away
18 Watch	9 Traitor
19 Thrive (Lat.)	11 Precipitous
20 Quarrel	16 Yes
24 Enumerate	20 Connivers
25 Bat	21 Goodman's instrument
26 Without repetition	22 Ponder
27 Harness collar	23 Man's nickname
28 Account book	
30 Silkworm of Assam	
31 Assess	
32 Chinese river	
33 Make a disavowal	
40 Up the —	
41 Anatomical networks	
42 In unison	
43 Position	
44 Being (Sp.)	



Yesterday's Answer

24 airport	34 Greet the judge
28 New Guinea river	35 English river
29 Surplus town	36 French "hundred"
31 Walk or step	37 Corner
39 Inlet (Sp.)	



DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE — Here's how to work it:

One letter simply stands for another. In this sample A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

CRYPTOQUOTES
DBQ YFQMDQJD UMF D AW
KMZXPZL BMNQ ZA ADBQF
FQMJAZ WAF DBQPF AUPZPAZJ

DBMZ DBMD DBQO MFQ PZ
WMJBPZ — JMKRQI VABZJAZ

Yesterday's Cryptquote: THAT MAN IS RICHEST WHOSE PLEASURES ARE THE CHEAPEST — HENRY THOREAU

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Contract Bridge B. Jay and Steve Becker

The Art of Slam Bidding

South dealer. North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♦ K 853
♠ K Q J 72
♥ K Q 4

WEST
♦ K 862
♠ 962
♥ 854
♣ 953

EAST
♦ A Q J 1093
♠ 107
♥ 963
♣ J 8

SOUTH
♦ 75
♠ A Q J 4
♥ A 10
♣ A 10 7 6 2

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Pass 3♦ 3♣
4♥ Pass 4♥ Pass
5♦ Pass 5♥ Pass
6♥

Opening lead — two of spades.

The best test of a partnership is its ability to bid slams. Good slam bidding pays good dividends, but the chances of making a bidding error in heading for a slam are far greater than in the much more common cases where the goal is merely a game or a part score. Slam hands require more bidding and hence provide more opportunity for error.

As expected, South did. He bid four clubs over East's three spades, and then bid five diamonds to show the ace.

North, having given his all, retreated to five hearts, but South wisely bid six despite his two spade losers.

He reasoned that North had to have the ace of spades or a singleton spade, for without either of them he could not have made a jump-shift. South's confidence in partner was not misplaced, as he easily made the slam after losing a spade trick.

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DISEASE

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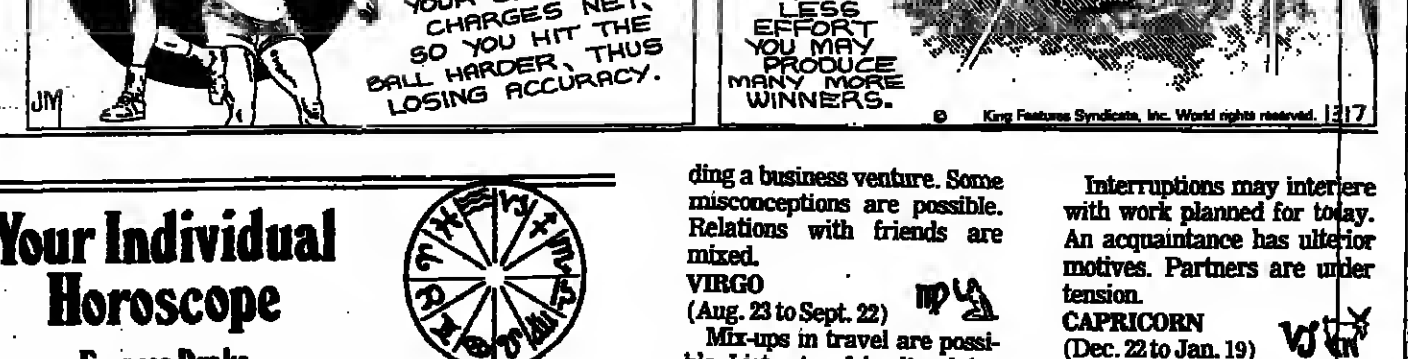
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THE SKELETONS

of a fleet of 11 wooden warships of ancient Rome, uncovered by construction workers in Mainz, W. Germany, in 1962, were waterlogged but otherwise well preserved — and one dated back to THE FIRST CENTURY (81 A.D.)



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Your Individual Horoscope

Frances Drake
FOR SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1983

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Some financial advice could be misleading. Fear or anger could undermine your effectiveness in speech. Be level-headed.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You may feel stalemated about a work project. Pressure comes from everywhere to spend beyond your means. However, don't!

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Secretive behavior could turn off a loved one. Don't allow someone to take unfair advantage of you in business.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A friendship is strained. Behind-the-scenes moves are liable to backfire now. Check the legalities of real estate matters.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) Be sure of your facts regarding a business venture. Some misconceptions are possible. Relations with friends are mixed.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Mix-ups in travel are possible. Listen to a friend's advice about a business matter. Don't get in over your head.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Errors in judgment could occur regarding spending. Wait before making important decisions about money. Travel proves expensive.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Strain in a partnership can be alleviated. Plan a fun outing for the two of you. You have mixed feelings about a possible purchase.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Shopping is favored, but visitors put a strain on your domestic routine. Make sure valuables are safe. Socializing is iffy.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to Mar. 20) You're sure of yourself, but others may misconstrue your intentions, especially in business. News comes from a relative.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Shopping is favored, but visitors put a strain on your domestic routine. Make sure valuables are safe. Socializing is iffy.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to Mar. 20) You're sure of yourself, but others may misconstrue your intentions, especially in business. News comes from a relative.

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PAGE 20

ABU DIVAB
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JEDDAH 671-8787 / 671-7477 671-8646
DAHRAN 891-4035 / 891-8403

Zimbabwe steps up hunt for kidnapped farmer

Britain allows Nkomo stay until April 12

LONDON, March 18 (Agencies) — Zimbabwe opposition leader Joshua Nkomo, who arrived in London last Sunday, has been given permission to remain in Britain until April 12, the Home Office said Friday.

Nkomo, 65, was told on his arrival here from South Africa that he could only remain for one week. The burly African leader told a news conference at Heathrow Airport on arrival that he would return home as soon as he receives firm assurances of his personal safety from Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe.

BBC puts toll at 1,000

LONDON, March 18 (AP) — The death toll in the sweep through Matabeleland by the Zimbabwe Army's North Korean-trained Fifth Brigade could reach 1,000 or more, the British Broadcasting Corp. said in a television report.

The report showed bodies lying in the bush and damage to homes and property that villagers said had been carried out by the Fifth Brigade. "The death toll could reach 1,000 or more. We'll probably never know for sure because the government denies the atrocities," said BBC reporter Philip Hayton.

Hayton said homes, especially those of people associated with Nkomo had been burned down in several villages and that troops had closed many offices of the Zimbabwe African People's Union.

Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's government has denied reports of massacres in Matabeleland, home of the minority Ndebele tribe from whom opposition leader Joshua Nkomo draws his support. The Fifth Brigade was sent into the area a month ago with orders to hunt out armed dissidents.

Hayton said his team made a 500-mile trek through the bush. He said church leaders and white farmers in a settlement near Figtree put the death toll in that area alone at 20.

Hayton said in two hours, his team found eight bodies, including six young men said to have been ordered off a bus by troops, marched into the bush and shot.

Finnish election may be indecisive

HELSINKI, March 18 (AFP) — The Social Democrats and the Conservatives are expected to run neck and neck in Finnish parliamentary elections Sunday and Monday, but it was seen as unlikely that either would secure enough votes to govern alone.

Opinion polls predict that both parties will win around 26 percent of the vote, a result that political observers believe will lead to arduous post-election negotiations to form a coalition cabinet.

Zimbabwe officials said the assurances already have been given and the Harare government would not negotiate with him outside of Zimbabwe.

He fled his home in Bulawayo in south Zimbabwe on March 7 when Mugabe's troops raided it and shot dead his driver. He first went to Botswana, Zimbabwe's southern neighbor, and flew to Johannesburg where he boarded a London-bound airliner.

Meanwhile, troops and paramilitary police backed by helicopter gunships and spotter planes Friday stepped up the hunt for a 67-year-old British-born farmer kidnapped at his farm near Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, Wednesday.

Police were also studying a ransom note, left with a farm laborer when Robert Dyer-Smith was snatched, saying six foreign tourists abducted last July were still alive.

But the latest kidnappers vowed to shoot the tourists — two Americans, two Australians and two Britons — as well as the elderly farmer if demands for the release of Nkomo's former guerrilla chiefs were not met.

Police sources said there was no other evidence to show that the farmer's kidnappers were still holding the tourists, marched into the hush at gunpoint in Matabeleland while on a cross-Africa safari.

The tourists are Americans Brett Baldwin, 23, of Seattle, Washington, and Kevin Ellis, 24, of Bellevue, Washington; Australians Tony Bajzeli, 25, of Ulverstone, Tasmania, and William Butler, 31, of Newcastle; and Britons James Greenwell, 18, of Liverpool, and Martin Hodgson, 35, of Peterborough.

Dyer-Smith, who lived in Bulawayo, was visiting his Hyde Park farm 32 kilometers west of the city when he was held up by six armed men, police sources said.

The kidnapping of Dyer-Smith and other dissident incidents mark a new outbreak of anti-government violence in southwestern Zimbabwe.

The last spate of such attacks was during the New Year holiday when 14 persons were killed by dissidents. Since then the Matabeleland province has been occupied by the national army's Fifth Brigade, which is blamed for killing more than one thousand civilians in the area since mid-January in its drive to control the dissidents.

It is believed the falling of the two former commanders of Nkomo's wartime guerrilla force sparked the dissident movement. The

former Nkomo guerrillas are blamed for more than 100 killings.

But more significantly the government army's harsh reprisals against the general Matabeleland population for allegedly supporting the dissidents has critically heightened the country's political and tribal tensions between the majority Shonas and the minority Ndebeles.

The treason trial of Nkomo's former guerrilla chiefs — Dumiso Dabengwa and Lookout Masuku — will resume Tuesday when the judge will rule whether the treason case

Charles, Di fly to Australia

LONDON, March 18 (AP) — Prince Charles, Princess Diana and their baby son Prince William left for Australia Friday night for a four-week visit which could help decide the future of the monarchy there.

The visit, which will be followed by a two-week tour of New Zealand, comes after a statement by Australia's new Labor Prime Minister Bob Hawke indicating that the days of monarchy in his country could be numbered.

Hawke ousted Malcolm Fraser as premier in Australia's March 5 general elections. He was asked the next day in an interview with the British Broadcasting Corp. if he thought Charles would make a suitable Australian monarch when the 34-year-old heir to the throne succeeds his 56-year-old mother Queen Elizabeth II.

Hawke replied: "I don't think we will be talking about kings of Australia for evermore." He said he believed Australia would be better off as a republic and that the time would come when Australians would opt for one, but added that it was not "the No. 1 issue." Elizabeth II, in addition to being the

British monarch, is also recognized as queen of a number of Commonwealth nations.

The royal couple have been promised a massive welcome, however, for their meet-the-people tour that will take them to every corner of the country. Despite Hawke's strictures, many Australians remain fervent royalists and the Australian press has predicted a rousing, flag-waving greeting for the couple wherever they go.

Prince William, who was nine months old Monday, is tipped to become a royal superstar. It will be the first trip out of Britain for the chubby-cheeked youngster, who now has six teeth and a shock of blond hair.

Buckingham Palace said the Australian Air Force Boeing 707 that will be used for the 12,000-mile flight to Australia will be carrying his crib, baby bath and some of his favorite toys. The plane is scheduled to arrive at Alice Springs, Australia, early Sunday morning.

Royal mothers traditionally have left their children at home while traveling abroad, but Diana reportedly insisted that William travel with her when possible.

Hinckley's psychiatrist sued

WASHINGTON, March 18 (AFP) — Three of the persons wounded when John Hinckley shot President Ronald Reagan in March 1981 decided Thursday to sue the would-be assassin's psychiatrist for \$14 million. Reagan himself is not claiming any damages.

The suit was filed by white House spokesman James Brady — the most severely injured, by a bullet in the brain — secret service agent Timothy McCarthy, who was shot in the liver and lungs, and policeman Thomas Delahanty, who was hit in the neck. The three claim that psychiatrist John

Hopper, who comes from the same city as John Hinckley — Denver, Colorado — either "knew or should have known that Hinckley would attempt a political assassination."

The suit charges that Dr. Hopper, who treated Hinckley regularly for five months before the shooting, had shown negligence in his diagnosis and accuses him of "failing to warn the law enforcement officials of Hinckley's dangerousness."

During his trial here last year Hinckley was acquitted of attempted murder by reason of insanity and is now in a Washington psychiatric hospital.

GLOBAL WEATHER											
	Min	Max		Min	Max		Min	Max		Min	Max
	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C
Amsterdam	4	39	10	50	rain		Mexico City	9	48	26	79
Athens	8	46	15	59	cloudy		Miami	19	66	25	77
Batavia	17	63	31	70	clear		Montreal	-2	28	11	52
Bangkok	27	81	33	91	clear		Moscow	1	34	3	37
Berlin	11	52	18	64	clear		New Delhi	15	59	32	90
Bombay	4	39	10	50	cloudy		New York	4	39	7	45
Brussels	3	37	12	54	cloudy		Nicosia	7	45	19	66
Buenos Aires	15	59	24	75	clear		Oahu	3	37	3	37
Calcutta	12	54	25	77	clear		Paris	12	54	13	55
Caracas	21	70	32	90	clear		Peking	2	36	14	57
Chicago	0	32	10	50	rain		Rio de Janeiro	18	64	34	93
Copenhagen	5	41	6	43	cloudy		Rome	9	48	14	57
Dublin	11	52	15	59	cloudy		San Francisco	9	48	15	59
Frankfurt	9	48	14	57	cloudy		Saudi	-1	30	10	50
Geneva	7	45	10	50	cloudy		Singapore	26	79	34	93
Helsinki	1	34	2	36	cloudy		Stockholm	1	34	6	43
Hong Kong	12	54	17	63	clear		Sydney	17	63	25	77
Jakarta	24	75	32	90	rain		Taipei	13	55	18	64
Kuala Lumpur	24	75	34	93	clear		Tokyo	6	43	11	52
London	11	52	15	59	cloudy		Toronto	3	37	11	52
Los Angeles	15	59	19	66	rain		Vancouver	9	48	12	54
Madrid	7	45	34	93	clear		Vienna	2	36	13	55

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Indonesia students blame Indira for Assam killings

JAKARTA, March 18 (AP) — More than 50 Indonesian students marched to the Indian Embassy here Friday to protest the massacre of Muslims in the state of Assam, northeastern India, during recent elections there.

Armed anti-riot police cordoned off the area, causing massive traffic snarls. The students unfurled posters blaming Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi for the massacre and calling for an end to discrimination against Muslims in Assam.

The crowd tried to press through the iron gates into the embassy, but security police and troops held them back and later confiscated their posters and banners.

Some of the students were later received by Indian Ambassador to Indonesia O.P. Malhotra and allowed to submit a petition which said the massacre of Indian Muslims in Assam was more inhuman than that at the refugee camps of Sabra and Shatila in Lebanon last September.

"The recent Indian election forced Indira Gandhi to allow the massacre of 2,500 innocent Muslims," the petition said. A spokesman for the Indian Embassy said the ambassador made no formal statement to the students.

The students also called on Indonesia to sever diplomatic relations with India. After submitting the petition, the protesters left the embassy grounds. No one was arrested.

Meanwhile, soldiers patrolled the streets of Assam state's main city in force for a third day and swept into other troubled areas still smoldering after weeks of violence.

Home Minister P.C. Sethi told parliament Thursday that 1,344 persons had been killed in the northeastern state, but Assamese leaders put the total at more than 3,000.

Massacres, clashes and arson attacks that razed entire settlements were reported throughout February when controversial elections touched off a simmering feud between native Assamese and Muslim immigrants from Bangladesh. Sporadic violence has continued in March. The native Assamese demand the expulsion of the Bengali settlers, claiming they are illegal aliens.

The army tactics brought at least a temporary calm. Officials reported no new violence. Sethi said 310,000 persons were being sheltered in refugee camps in Assam and that about 35,000 others had crossed over into

Polish protests feared

WARSAW, March 18 (AP) — An aide to Polish leader Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski was quoted Friday as saying there will be new demonstrations against the government but claimed that most workers support the administration.

"We do encounter protests and we will," said Maj. Wieslaw Gornicki, a former journalist who acts as Jaruzelski's spokesman. Gornicki's remarks followed peaceful demonstrations and widespread detentions of protesters in four Polish cities last Sunday and in the Baltic Port of Gdansk on Monday.

"I must state clearly that a class struggle is going on in Poland and the working class is by no means on the side of the opposition," Gornicki said.

neighboring West Bengal and Arunachal Pradesh states.

The central government, under emergency order, sent in army units with powers resembling those of martial law patrol much of central Assam along Brahmaputra River when the elections ended in late February.

On Tuesday, troops entered Gauhati, Assam's main city, and the nearby capital Dispur, both initially exempted from emergency order.

House snubs Thai Army

BANGKOK, March 18 (R) — Thailand's

Army failed Friday to overturn a parliamentary vote which had rejected moves to the military a permanent role in running country. An apparent last-ditch attempt to restore the army's political influence by procedural maneuvering to challenge Wednesday's vote collapsed ignominiously.

A petition put forward by army-backed legislators was thrown out and a call for no-confidence vote against Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda's coalition government lapsed automatically because insufficient members of parliament were present.

The petition said parliament should reconsider the result of the vote because it should have been based on the actual number of senators and members of parliament rather than on the number of seats, some left vacant by deaths and resignations.

A constitutional amendment which would have given the armed forces an equal share in parliamentary power with elected politicians failed by 10 votes to win a simple majority during a joint session of the nominally bicameral parliament.

The change, backed by Army Chief Gen. Arthit Kamlang-Ek, would also have allowed serving generals, admirals and air marshals hold political office simultaneously. The only way to political power now is to resign their commissions or, as in the past, to stage a coup.

Senators and members of parliament showed their disapproval of the latest army-backed move to challenge parliament's decision by throwing out Friday's petition by an overwhelming 209 to 80 votes.

China protests to U.S.

PEKING, March 18 (AFP) — China protested to the United States that U.S. arms sales to Taiwan are rising for the fiscal year 1983 and 1984, a reliable source said here Friday.

The planned increases to the Nationalist ruled island, which China claims, are worth \$800 million in 1983 and \$780 million for 1984, according to figures published in Washington recently.

A U.S. Embassy spokesman, questioned on the Chinese protest, did not confirm it and refused comment. There was also no immediate comment from the Chinese side.

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